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WASHINGTON.

The Retrenchment Question to Come Up Again in the Senate To-day.

Trumbull's Amendment to the Caucus Resolution Likely to be Adopted.

Embarrassing Attitude of the Government in Regard to Cuban Affairs.

Substance of the New Regulations Proposed by the Steamboatmen's Convention.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—It is expected that Anthony will offer the caucus resolution for investigation to-morrow. Trumbull will offer as an amendment the words: "And to consider the expediency of withdrawing the civil service from being used as an instrument of political or party patronage, and giving the committee power to send for persons and papers." It is now generally admitted by the firm friends of the Administration that Conkling, Chandler, Edmunds and Morton have been guilty of a grave blunder, and quite an accession is expected to-morrow to those who have heretofore voted steadily for reform. The President has not been responsible for the course of those who affect to be his special representatives. An exciting debate is expected, and chances are pretty good that the caucus resolution will be amended.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS CASE.

The Secretary of State will send to the Senate to-morrow copies of the Alabama claims case as prepared for the Geneva Conference. An edition in French has been forwarded to Bancroft Davis, at Geneva.

AGENT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Mr. Curtis will lay before the President to-morrow the report of the Civil Service Commission. The plan devised can be applied to the departments by without legislation, by the appropriation of $10,000 for the expenses of a Board of Examiners. Members of the new Civil Service Committee, who have consulted with the Commissioners as to the recommendations in the forthcoming report and the character of the system to be submitted, state that in the latter respect it is admirably adapted to the institutions of this country, and cannot fail to give satisfaction to all friends of this needful reform. The report is about ready.

THE FINAL ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION.

It is the opinion of a large number of Republican Senators that the Senate will adopt Morton's resolution to adjourn to the third Monday in May. It is not to be supposed that the House will agree, however. An effort will be made to get up the resolution to-morrow, and to pass it before the holidays.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

It is stated that our government is now placed in an exceedingly embarrassing attitude with relation to Cuban affairs, by the duplicity of Senor Roberts, Spanish Minister here. The Spanish Government recently, in accordance with the remonstrances forwarded from here, ordered the release of all estates in Cuba, by Spanish volunteers, which were claimed by American citizens. There is reason to believe that this order has not been enforced with the rigor that justice and good faith demand, and this representation has recently been pressed upon the Spanish Minister's attention with instructions that American interests should not be better protected in future, the American Government would be compelled to interfere. In reply to this remonstrance, the Spanish Minister, it is stated, first controverts the facts and then threatens that if our government does interfere in the least with Cuba, he will go before the Geneva Conference and testify that we have not used due diligence in preventing the fitting out of privateers and shipments from our ports to Cuba, with a view to assisting the American citizens by whom all officers and cavities are to be constituted.

STEAMBOAT REGULATIONS.

Inspectors of Steamboatmen have completed the amendments they desire to the last Steamboat law, and submitted it to the members of the House Committee on Commerce. The new bill is greatly praised by several on the committee, and it is believed that it will be reported substantially as presented to them. It has been prepared by practical steamboatmen, and is designed to meet the wants of the whole country, representing the coast, lake, and river interests. Of the 71 sections of the old bill, 37 are amended. Six sections pertain to methods of manufacture and system of stamps for boiler iron or steel, the stamps on each plate to show how it was made and its strength, the figures to be in all cases for within the actual strength, and penalties are provided to insure correctness of representations made by the stamp. Penalties are prescribed in case the boiler-makers use defective iron, and for inspectors who knowingly pass a defective sheet; all boilers to be tested before use by hydrostatic test, and allowed to carry three-fourths test. The detention of all imperfect or defective boilers is insure a higher standard of quality among manufacturers. The bill abolishes the low-water indicators, back-up safety-gauges, and according-gauges. The reason urged for this course is that these are contrivances to make engineers negligent. The number, and kind of life-boats, life-preservers, and life-apparatus for each class of vessel is prescribed. There is a section which defines the different classes of vessels. Passenger steamers are those which carry any persons other than officers and crew, and other employes, and owners and their families and servants, except ferry boats. Freight, tug, towing, and ferry boats, yacht and canal, are each clearly defined. A passenger is defined to be any person carried on a steamer, other than the officers and crew, other employes, owners and their families and servants. The measurement, under the bill, is held to be that of the Custom House. Doors on steamers are to be hung in such manner that they can readily lifted off to serve as floats. Water bulk-heads must extend to the deck above the line of water when the vessel is loaded. There are severe restrictions upon carrying inflammable articles. Crude petroleum, camphene, benzole, nitro-glycerine and similar articles are prohibited as passenger steamers. All boats can carry refined petroleum that will stand the fire test of one hundred and ten degrees. It must be stored in such places as the local inspectors shall designate in writing. All who attempt to ship prohibited articles are liable to heavy penalty. The number of watchmen is fixed on each class of vessel from sunset to sunrise, and the lights which must be carried are named. The license provision is retained for Captains, engineers, mates, and pilots, but the fees for the same are reduced one-half. Under the present law the board must meet in Washington. An amendment proposes to have the meetings in various parts of the country, as the board may determine. It is proposed to have an Inspector General at the new bureau of the Treasury, and not have him meet with the board or have power to vote upon measures. All rules of the board which have been found to be practicable are proposed as parts of the law. Stringent provisions are inserted looking to the making of each officer responsible for the prompt discharge of his own peculiar duties. Special care has been taken to prepare a bill that can readily be understood by all interested, and the result meets with warm commendation from the committee. The great trouble of the Board of Inspectors with the last law was its obscurity. The Executive Committee discussed the propriety of requiring all foreign vessels navigating our waters, lakes, or rivers to comply with the same regulations which the governments from which they come impose upon American vessels. This, however, has not yet been put into the bill.

TO RETIRE.

Paymaster General Brice will to-morrow retire from active duty at his own request.

(To the Associated Press.)

THE WOOL CROP.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The wool crop of the United States for the year ending June 1, 1870, according to the census returns, amounted to 91,564,227 pounds, including 47,259,627 from the Northwestern States.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPANISH COMMISSION has not yet decided any cases. Few have been argued, owing to the delay in taking testimony in Cuba.

THE HOLIDAY RECESS.

Many Congressmen leave on Wednesday for home to spend the holidays. A quorum is not expected on Thursday. All important matters, the consideration of the tariff, and question of Cuba included, go over till after the recess.

SAMANA.

A private letter from San Domingo says the two years' lease of the Bay of Samana having expired, the United States flag has been hoisted there.

CATACARY ORDERED HOME.

A Washington special says the official advices in that Cortschakoff has ordered Catacazy to leave America, after accompanying the Grand Duke as far as St. Louis, and the Legation will be in charge of Baron Dantzas, the Secretary, until the arrival of the Charge d'Affaires, who will leave at once.

ANGLO-AMERICAN CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The United States and British Mixed Claims Commission to-day disallowed the demurrer in the case of Jeremy Bentley against the United States. The claim of William Deane against the United States was disallowed. The Commission adjourned until January 24.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—A cable special says the English merchants, when the illness of the Prince of Wales was alarming, bought the entire stock of black gloves, black artificial flowers, dry goods and jet ornaments in Paris.

The Home Secretary is likely to request Parliament, to give him authority to expel Carl Marx from the United Kingdom. Marx's residence, is placed under the watch of police agents.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—An official bulletin, issued from Sandringham at 8 this morning, announced that the Prince of Wales had passed a quiet night, and was satisfactorily progressing toward recovery.

Another bulletin, issued late this afternoon, reports that the Prince had a tranquil day.

The *Observer* says Parliament will meet the second week in February.

France.

PARIS, Dec. 17.—The French committee proposes to present the government of England an oil painting commemorative of the great efforts made by the people and authorities of that country to supply the French people with food when sorely pressed by famine and distress at the close of the war.

The majority of the National Assembly is still averse to a return to Paris. It is reported to-day that an arrangement is likely to be effected, under which the Executive Departments will take up quarters in Paris, while the Assembly remains at Versailles.

Eighty of the extreme Legitimists in the Assembly will, it is said, secede from the majority of the monarchical party in case the Duke d'Aumale is chosen its leader.

The committee upon the reorganization of the army has agreed to exempt from compulsory military service all ecclesiastics and heads of commercial establishments.

China and Japan.

SHANGHAI, Nov. 12.—The flood near Tien-Tsin continues. The residents represent the need of protection during the ensuing winter.

YOKOHOMA, Nov. 22.—Mr. DeLong, American Minister, has returned from his trip over-land from Hokodate. The Embassy leaves here by the next mail to confer with foreign governments relative to a revision of the treaties to be made in July next by the united demand of foreign Cabinets. The Mikado is willing to open up the entire country to Foreign Intercourse, but requests that it must be a united one to have effect.

A fire at Hokodate has destroyed nearly the whole town, and property valued at over half a million.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—Authentic advices from Yeddo, received just as the steamer sailed, say the Embassy which sails from Yokohama to-day, due here January 18, is to be the most important that ever left the Oriental nation for America or Europe. It is sent out by order of the Japanese Parliament and Yeddo, that the ruling classes may study for themselves Western civilization, and not depend on reports of interiors as hitherto. It is said that there will be Jewburn-like Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the new Prime Minister, assisted by Kido, chief of the Satsumese; Okubo, Minister of War; the Chief Minister of Public Works, Chief Minister of Finance, and Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, composing the Embassy proper. These will be accompanied by eight secretaries, twenty-one officers of the second rank, and twenty-one young noblemen travelling for information. They will proceed to Washington overland, visit the principal cities of America, then cross to Europe, and around the world. Minister DeLong accompanies them to Washington. Charles Walcott Brooks, the Japanese Consul at San Francisco, will accompany them around the world. All the officials will retain their positions while absent from the empire.

There was a sharp strife among Foreign Embassies whether they should go to Europe or America. The latter won.

Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, *via* HAVANA, Dec. 17.—The revolution continues to spread. The States of Cassos, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Sonora Durango, and Zacatecas, are in the power of the revolutionists, and pronunciamentos prevail in San Luis, Vera Cruz, and Puebla. President Juarez opened the session of Congress on the 1st inst., with a remarkable address on the situation. He said: "The country appears to be consuming itself in untruitful struggles, and that a military power is gaining over the civil. The standard of legality, bringing back the time when revolution signified a change of individuals in power. He counts upon the aid of Congress to suppress the seditions movement. The Speaker of Congress replied that Congress trusts that peace will soon be established, and that the republic satisfied with the re-election of Juarez, excepting the States of Nuevo, Leon, Coahuila and Sonora, and the bandits who are robbing Oaxaca.

Cuba.

At the St. Stephens Roman Catholic church, today, Rev. Dr. McGlynn denounced the teaching of the Bible in public schools, and declared it contrary to the Constitution of the United States.

THEFT.

The statement that Tweed is to be arrested on each of the twenty-one indictments found against him is confirmed.

ILLINOIS.

Prisoners at Joliet Claim Their Liberty Under the "Good Behavior" Rule—The Application Unsuccessful.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

JOLIET, Dec. 16.—At the May term, 1865, of the Adams County Circuit Court, Henry Wool and Charles Smith pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to the indeterminate term of burglary in the Penitentiary for four years in each case. The indictments in the hand of the Warden in the second case says that they were sentenced for the term of "not years," said term to commence at the expiration of the first case No. 2,954, four years from and after the delivery here." The *mittimus* in each case was delivered to the Warden on the 19th day of May, in said year, and they have each made 138 days of good time, which being credited to them, made their terms of imprisonment in the first case expire on the 19th of November last. To-day the Warden was brought before Judge Wilkinson on a writ of habeas corpus, on the *habeas corpus* why he held the men, their attorneys claiming that under the *mittimus* in the second case their term of imprisonment in the penitentiary did not begin until the 28th of May next, and hence that they are illegally held. The Warden produced the original *mittimus* signed by the Judge, held that the only fair construction that could be given the *mittimus* was that the second sentence was a term of imprisonment to begin at the close of the first, and that the conduct of the prisoners and the law, not the court, fixed the termination of the first sentence. That the court could not and did not attempt to fix more than a contingent day on which the second sentence should commence. The prisoners were remanded back to the custody of the Warden.

Death of State Senator John L. Tincher, of Vermillion County.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 17.—Senator John L. Tincher, representing the Ninth Senatorial District, from Vermillion County, who has been sick at the Revere House during the past week with pleuro pneumonia, died this evening at 6:30 o'clock. Senator Tincher was a native of Indiana, but has been a resident of Illinois for twenty-one years; resided at Danville, and was by occupation a farmer. He was a member of the House of Representatives in the sessions of 1865 1867, and 1869. He was also a member of the Constitutional Convention which framed the present constitution of Illinois, in which body he exerted a widespread and beneficial influence. He was elected to represent the Ninth Senatorial District in 1870, and took his seat at the commencement of the first term of the body, and has ever since been one of its most valuable members. Senator Tincher had more than ordinary ability as a ready debater, a sagacious legislator, and an honorable, upright citizen; a warm-hearted friend, a zealous politician, and, withal, a Christian gentleman. His loss will be severely felt by his brother Senators, and his constituents will lose an honest and faithful representative. Senator Tincher leaves a wife, son, and daughter. Both Senate and House will be called together to-morrow morning at 9:30 o'clock, to make arrangements for escorting the remains to Danville.

AMUSEMENTS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Arlington's Minstrels will produce an entirely new programme of good things this evening at the West Side Opera House.

—Manning's Minstrels, with Billy Manning and Billy Rice on the "ends," will commence a one week's engagement at the Michigan Avenue Theatre this evening.

—Mr. Weatherwax, several years ago a partner with Colonel Wood in the Museum, has leased Burlington Hall, corner of State and Sixteenth streets, for a term of years, and will at once fit it up as a minstrel hall. He is negotiating with Billy Manning.

—The play of "Bertha, the Sewing Machine Girl," on Saturday evening attracted the largest audience that ever thronged the Globe since it was first opened as a theatre. Miss De Barr's Bertie pleased everyone, and she is making friends of new admirers at every appearance.

—Mr. Wyndham will commence another two weeks' engagement at the Michigan Avenue Theatre on Christmas afternoon, opening with "Caste." The piece will be produced with all the original people in the cast, including Sarah Thorpe, Miss Kate Josephine Meek, Miss Barry, Fitzpatrick, Bedford Ryan, Giddens, and Miss Abbey Cowell. The Wyndhams will be followed by the Lingard company, in new sketches, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY ITEMS.

The McKee Rankin Comedy Company were at the Barnes House yesterday. They departed for Milwaukee at 11 o'clock last night.

John Dillon, ex-Guardian, is spending the winter at his West Madison street residence—known to the public as the Washingtonian Home.

—The fifth annual sociable of the Jefferson Park Presbyterian Church will be held at the church, corner of Adams and Throop streets, next Thursday evening. Tickets, 50 cents.

—Mrs. Margaret Burke, of No. 198 South Desplaines street, was knocked down by a butcher cart at the corner of Van Buren and Desplaines street, on Saturday afternoon, and had her left shoulder dislocated, and sustained other injuries. She was removed to her home and attended by Dr. Lilly.

On Saturday afternoon Mrs. Shoemacher, who lives at No. 207 Calumet avenue, while crossing Michigan avenue at the corner of Twenty-second street, was knocked down by a horse and severely injured. She was carried into Bliss & Sharp's drug store, and then taken to her home by her husband.

—James Dix, a coachman in the employ of Mr. Tilden, was thrown from his vehicle, near the corner of State and Twenty-second streets, yesterday afternoon, and sustained severe internal injuries. He was removed to Dr. Wilder's office, where he remains, as he cannot be taken away without endangering his life.

—The final games in the Cleveland Chess Congress were played on Friday, and in the evening the distribution of prizes were made, as follows: First prize, $100, O. H. Hockenese, New York; second prize, $50, H. Hosmer, Chicago; third prize, $40, F. H. Kidder, Detroit; fourth prize, $30, Max Judd, Cleveland; fifth prize, $20, D. P. Ware, Jr., Boston; sixth prize, $10, H. D. Smith, Michigan; seventh prize, $5, H. Harding, Michigan.

—A man named George Judge was run over by a Madison street car, at the corner of LaSalle street, on Saturday evening, and had the flesh torn from his left hand and right arm. He had previous to the accident been smoking on the rear platform and had some difficulty with the conductor, he was ordered him to go to the front platform. He did so, and had not been there but a moment or so when he fell off and rolled under the wheels of the car. He was taken to the Armory, and subsequently to the County Hospital.

HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Explosion of the Boiler in Wahl Bros'. Glue Factory.

The Fireman and Boss Carpenter Instantly Killed, and a Workman Fatally Scalded.

Bang, crash, and one end of a boiler goes through a roof, takes an oblique course, and, coming down by the attraction of gravitation, is imbedded a foot or two deep in the earth two hundred and fifty feet distant. Excited men rush from the building, and when at a safe distance look round to see what has occurred. They see a hole in the roof, but the structure gives no sign of falling in, and they return to the duties.

The building where the above-described catastrophe occurred is Wahl Bros.' glue factory located on the South Branch, near Archer avenue. The time of the explosion was twenty minutes of 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. A connection had to be made between the artesian well on the premises and the factory, and while the most of the employes, at the request of the firm, had consented to work on Sunday. All of them but two were scattered around the building, the exception, being the fireman and the "boss" carpenter, who were in the engine-room. Suddenly, and without any noticeable is as far as known, one end of a perpendicular boiler was blown off by the steam and went crashing through the upper floors and out of the roof, making an aperture fifteen feet square, and weakening the sides of the building. The broken joists fell down, and timbers were thrown in every direction, and the escaping steam filled the engine-room and for a from sight all persons who were therein, and gave an opportunity to Dame Rumor to set afloat startling and erroneous reports in relation to the killed and wounded.

The men in the other portions of the building imagined from the noise that their lives were in jeopardy, and scattered like sheep, each taking the shortest way to leave the factory, and all were successful. The appearance of the cupola through which the boiler went was not calculated to reassure, and, therefore, proved a heavy loss to the purchasers. The amount of damages claimed by the Plaintiffs in the present case is $30,000."

The Supreme Court of Iowa has just decided that "Where a railroad track is fenced, and the bars in the fence are down, and stock from adjoining land gets to the track and is killed by a passing train, the company are not liable, unless the fact that the bars were down was previously known to the company."

—On Monday evening last, John Myers, a railroad employe, fell fifteen feet from a scaffold in Ottumwa, which injured him so severely that he died next morning.

—Jerry Reed, formerly an acrobat in Dan Rice's circus, froze his feet so severely, near Fort Madison, the other day, that both had to be amputated.

WISCONSIN.

A young woman, named Emilie Fischer, was terribly injured, on the 13th inst., at the beet sugar mills at Blackhawk, by getting caught in some machinery. Her arm was so badly crushed that it had to be amputated.

—Urban Willets, a Frenchman, about 55 years of age, was found dead in a shanty on lot 37 of the Fort Howard Military Reserve, on the 10th. It is supposed that he died in a fit, from the effects of former hard drinking.

—Henry Reppler, a Milwaukee clerk, attempted suicide by taking laudanum, on the 14th inst., but failed in the attempt.

—The Rev. Geo. E. Spining, a prominent Presbyterian minister of Appleton, has left that city for Berlin, to accept the partorate of the Presbyterian Church at that place.

—A child, 2 years old, of Mr. Patrick Farmer, residing in Clyman, Dodge County, was fatally scalded, on the 9th inst., by upsetting a pail of boiling water upon itself. The little sufferer lingered in great agony for about twenty-four hours, when death came to its relief.

—The Oshkosh *Northwestern* says there is a brisk demand for choppers and laborers for the pineries, and good wages are offered.

—The Jefferson *Banner* learns that the cheese factory at Milford, owned by E. P. Ingalls, Esq., was burned to the ground on the 9th inst., together with all its contents. The loss is heavy.

INDIANA.

A boy 17 years old, named Frank Kennedy, robbed his employer, Mr. Charles Decker, who lives near Decker's station, on the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad, the other day, of $1,000 in greenbacks. The money was kept in a bureau drawer, and the boy, during Mr. Decker's absence from home, took it and departed.

—Milton Lee, of Coburn Station, who died last week, was buried ten feet deep in a triple coffin, the outer one being of two-inch oak, securely spiked. These precautions were taken to insure a quiet rest and immunity from artificial resurrection.

—A mischievous little fellow about 12 years old, residing with his widowed mother, Mrs. Williams, about three miles north of Shelbyville, loaded a gun on Friday evening, the 9th, and put it behind the kitchen door. The next morning, thinking to frighten his sister, and forgetting that he had loaded the gun before, he took out the gun, placed a cap on the tube, took good aim and fired, killing her instantly. The deceased was about 20 years old.

—A prominent lawyer of Vincennes is going to take the lecture field in opposition to the Darwinian theory.

MICHIGAN.

The annual report of John Morris, agent of the State Prison, has just been prepared for publication. It shows that the whole number of convicts in prison at the close of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, 1871, was 421 against 463 at the close of the fiscal year 1870, showing a decrease of 42 since the last report. There were received during the year, 206, and discharged, 252. Two have had sentence reversed; 19 have been pardoned by the Governor; 12 have died; and 4 escaped. The total receipts for the year were $89,995.41; expenditures, $87,660.65.

—Confiding Indians in the Upper Peninsula carry cans of nitro-glycerine on their backs from one settlement to another.

—Wm. Lainter, of Charlevoix, committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver, on the 8th inst. Poor health was the cause of the deed.

—The Bay City *Journal* says: "By orders from the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, different varieties of fish on Saginaw Bay and other fishing grounds were turned loose this fall, after being marked with metallic tags for the future information of science."

—At Greenville they ring the church bells at 8 o'clock p. m., to announce to the honest tradesman that it's time to put up the shutters.

—Mr. Joseph L. Hoyt, one of the pioneers of Oakland County, died suddenly on Thursday last while sitting in his chair. His health had been poor for some time, and no one expected him to entirely recover, but his death at the time was entirely unexpected. Mr. Hoyt was in his 75th year, and had been a resident of this county since 1826.

—Several well known German capitalists in Grand Rapids are about to establish a saw mill and furniture factory there.

—The Rev. Charles Clutes, a Baptist minister, near Holly, recently separated from his wife, giving her $600 and a cow and a calf, according to her statement, but not according to his, for he replevied the veal, which brought affairs into the justice court. The calf was finally awarded him.

—Bela Hubbard, of Detroit, has picked this season 2,000 bushels of cranberries from a marsh he owns in Royal Oak, Oakland County. The vines had no cultivation, but the berries are of good quality, and worth $4 per bushel.

—Judge Giddings, of the Ottawa County, decides that a woman cannot be imprisoned for selling liquor, citing the general statute that women are exempt from imprisonment on a civil suit. The woman's righters rejoice.

MINNESOTA.

A Temperance Society, auxiliary to the State society, has been organized in Dakota County.

—The Hon. W. L. Coupland, one of the commissioners appointed by Governor Austin to examine into the condition of the frontier settlers who met with losses by hail storms, tornadoes and fires during the summer and fall, has returned from his tour and submitted his report. He personally visited the Yellow Medicine, Chippewa and Lac qui Parle country. He personally inspected a large number of cases of destitution, and estimates the losses of those examined to be about $4,000.

—The St. Paul *Press* has intelligence of the recapture, on the 12th inst., at River Falls, Wis., of Henry Shaser, the "fire-bug" who has committed so many incendiary crimes at Prescott, Wis., and who broke jail on the 7th. He is booked for seven years in the Wisconsin State Prison.

KANSAS.

The Lawrence *Journal* says that Governor Robinson is to deliver an address before the Farmer's Institute of the Agricultural College at Manhattan, sometime between the 15th and 19th of January, on the subject of "What shall we do with our corn crop?" As the Governor has 15,000 bushels of corn on hand, the question has to him a deep personal interest.

—The Wichita *Vidette* says that on Friday, the 8th inst., Dr. Catley, of that city, undertook to cut a tumor out of the neck of a young man, a brother of Henry Schweitzer, and, in doing so, cut a gash three-eighths of an inch in the windpipe. It is needless to say that Catley was intoxicated at the time. Drs. Allen and Fabrique were in attendance at the time, otherwise the young man would have died in a few few moments. They, however, removed the tumor and fixed up the windpipe as well as could be. There are prospects of his recovery.

—Michael Sennett, attempted to commit suicide by jumping into the river, at Leavenworth, December 10, but was brought to the shore by Judge Fenbery. He is considered insane.

THE FAR WEST.

Major A. W. Evans, of the Third Cavalry, is announced as Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence for the department of Arizona.

—The body of Lieutenant Howard B. Cushing, killed while making an Indian raid in Arizona last spring, was buried in Tucson, Nov. 15, with military honors.

—A woman named Nickle horsewhipped a man named Sherman, at Omaha, on the 14th inst, for slandering her.

—The Railroad Hotel, at Cheyenne, was burned on the 11th inst., involving a loss of over $30,000.

RAILROADS.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 13th announces that there is now a certain prospect that New Orleans will speedily be connected by rail with Houston and Shreveport, Texas, which will save to the city the trade of Texas, North Louisiana, and South Arkansas.

—The track of the Milwaukee & Northern Railway has been laid as far as Redgranite.

—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Northern Nebraska & Dakota Central Railroad, held at Covington, Nebraska, on the 14th, the following Board of Directors was elected: Judge A. W. Hubbard, Mayor of St. Davis; John Cleborn, C. E. Hedges, John H. Charles, James E. Boyd, Sioux City; George John, Sioux City; Dakota; John Stough, Ponca, Neb.; J. Brannan, Franklin, Neb.; C. F. Heath, Simon Rienson, Covington, Neb.; C. C. Van, Dixon County; James Stutt, C. F. Eckhart, Dakota City, Neb. At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, A. W. Hubbard was elected President, D. T. Gilman, Treasurer, and Simon Rienson, Secretary.

—The Oregon & California Railway runs from Portland up south through the Willamette Valley, on the east side of the river. About one hundred and thirty miles of this road are now in operation, and travelled over daily by a number of trains. The remainder of the road, which will be a matter of some difficulty to get rid of them, as long as there is no fusion of all parts of the Opposition and an appeal to the country.

The immediate cause of disagreement is the appointment of M. Pierre de Decker as Governor of the Province of Limburg, while various acts of maladministration are, as a matter of course, brought forward to strengthen the hands of the Opposition. M. de Decker's name is well known in Belgium, and up to a certain period of his life he was always mentioned as one of the most respected statesman of the day. A man of learning and taste, a powerful orator, a ready debater, a member of the Ministry in 1855 and 1856, and sometime President of the *Academicie Belgique*, would seem no improper man to fill an important position in the country. It seems, however, that M. de Decker is not so popular as an outsider would reasonably suppose. Some very ugly things have lately been said against his character, and the very fact that he is still included in one of the most discreditable *causes celebres* which have been revealed in this century, throws a different light upon him. If all be true that is said—and it should be added, supported by documentary evidence—M. de Decker is certainly not the man to fill the Governorship of Limburg. His name is most intimately connected with the schemes of M. Langrand-Dumoncean and his five companions, the history of which is, or should be, known to all your readers. I do not intend at this moment to give you a resume of their annals—suffice it to say, that M. Langrand, and the speculators who assisted him, established a company in 1857 which held out very enticing promises to shareholders, especially to the farmers and the country gentlemen, and the prospectus, being headed by men of great note and respectability in Belgium, found ready subscribers.

The leaders of the Clerical party were pressed into its service; a letter was even procured from the Pope himself, recommending the schemes; and armed with this the priest was taken by the button-hole, and the money flowed in from all sides. M. de Decker was one of the Directors, and for some time the Langrand Company stood very well. The high interest was paid regularly, and nobody had any suspicion. Presently, when the capital had been paid away in interest, it was necessary to start a second company to keep up the first. The capital subscribed for the second paid the high dividends of the first, and the still higher dividends of the second. No business was or could be done in the way proposed by the Directors, and as a matter of course a third company had to be started. The names of the Directors still possessing their old power, it was not very difficult for them to keep afloat by means of a fourth, and even a fifth scheme for which the money was readily subscribed by the ignorant and the greedy agriculturists. Then came the crash. Baro, who was at that time Minister of Justice, thought it his duty to interfere, and it was found that there were no assets worth mentioning, and a deficit of three to four hundred million francs.

It need scarcely be said that the indignation in the entire country was at the time intense, and M. Langrand thought it advisable to visit the hospitable shores of Britain, from whence he has just addressed a letter to the Brussels papers, commencing thus in the name of the forgiving publicity to a long statement and explanation of how it all came about. Enough has been said to show that a gentleman on whose name there rests so much that is not yet explained about exactly the person to represent the dignity of royalty in one of the provinces, however eminent he may have been, however talented he is. On Wednesday afternoon M. Bara, the ex-Minister, one of the leaders of the Liberal party, interpellated the government on the appointment, and in a speech which lasted three hours gave a short account of the whole affair, in which the new Governor was mixed up. He read letters which were written for private information, but which had been seized in the offices, and disclosed many other documents of an extraordinary and gentlemanly nature. M. de Decker, and several other members, some of whose letters were produced, were present, but had nothing to say. When M. Barra had finished his speech, they requested that the debate might be adjourned till the following day, when they would have had time to prepare themselves against the infamous charges of the ex-Minister. The crowd in front of the House kept up a chorus outside which may have inspired and invigorated the tribune.

On Thursday the eagerly-expected explanation was not very satisfactory. M. Dresseur, one of the gentlemen most implicated, magnanimously announced that he considered it beneath him to explain, while M. Nothomb, another of the Directors, had to confess that there were great irregularities, mistakes, and maladministration, but that the companies were managed by their enemies, and that but for the hostile persecutions of the Liberal party all would have ended happily. When, thereupon, M. Bara desired to speak, the Right rose in a body and demanded the adjournment, which was carried by 67 against 48. It was thereupon that the demonstration of the crowd took place, which have continued up to the hour. They are not very formidable as yet, but there is evidently more behind than the streets show at present.

Oysters.

D. D. Mallory & Co. advise everybody not to buy bulk oysters canned in Chicago, but to be sure of getting what can be relied on as being fresh and of original flavor, and only kind of oysters, by purchasing the celebrated Diamond Brand put up by D. D. Mallory & Co., Baltimore. They are sold by all the leading grocers throughout the country and city. Their depot in this city is No. 114 West Randolph street.

Special Notice.

The semi-annual interest on Northern Pacific 7-30 gold bonds will be due on January 1. We cash the coupons in gold, or allow current gold rates therefor. Northern Pacific bonds for sale, both coupon and registered. Lunt, Preston & Kean, bankers, corner Randolph and Halsted streets.

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The public will bear in mind that for freshness, flavor, and fullness of cans, F. J. Ruth's square brand oysters can be relied upon. Send in your Christmas orders early. Depot, Nos. 85, 85 and 87 South Canal street.

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WILLIAM SWINBURN, Constable.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

Knights of Pythias.

The regular Communication of Board of Trade Lodge No. 4, U. of P., will be held at 82 West Randolph-st. this (Monday) evening, Dec. 18, at 7:30 o'clock. Nominations for officers for the ensuing term will be made. Trustees of the Lodge are hereby ordered to be present. Paper and business will be brought before the Lodge, and a full attendance is requested. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend.

By order of the C. C.

JAMES M. BUCKMAN, W. C.

Attest: JOHN G. BALDWIN, R. & C. S.

Attention, Sir Knights.

Annual conclave of Chicago Commandery No. 19, K. T.,

MONDAY EVENING,

at 7:30 o'clock. Election of officers and other important business. A full attendance is expected.

By order of the E. C.

JOHN WHITLEY, Recorder.

Masonic.

LAFAYETTE CHAPTER NO. 5, R. A. M. Special Convocation this (Monday) evening, at 7 o'clock, for the installation of officers elected and appointed, in the Hall of Union Park Lodge, No. 501 West Lake-st. By order of the H.

E. N. TUCKER, Secretary.

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FOR

1872.

The January No.

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LONDON.

The Illness of the Prince of Wales.

Albert Edward a Much Better Man than He is Represented.

Political Complications that Might Arise from His Death.

A Frenchman Scheming to Swindle All America.

From Our Special Correspondent.

LONDON, Dec. 2.

Within the last few days English society has caught glimpses of the kind of difficulties with which the system of royalty has become surrounded. In previous reigns the serious illness of an heir to the Throne has not occasioned any alarm for the Throne itself. *Now*, it is the existence of the Crown of which men speak, much more than of the danger to the heir.

REPUBLICANISM IN ENGLAND.

There are two sorts of republicanism in England. There is the theory men, who have come deliberately to the conclusion that the republican form of government is the one most favorable to unqualified liberty, most conducive to its moral and material prosperity. And there is the noisy, blatant dissatisfaction, which aims at persons rather than at things, and which would exchange a constitution for a personal defect. It is the latter which makes itself heard: which cheers Sir Charles Dilke; which goes wild over "the downfall" and which hisses in a theatre (as at Birmingham this week) when a favorable bulletin of the Prince of Wales' health is read. It is a poor, mushroom republicanism,—showing, indeed, the state of the soil in which it sprung, but of no root or durability. At the time I write the Prince is hovering between life and death, and the delirium in which he raves alarms the people around. Long before this letter reaches you the best or the worst will be known. Now, what is the state of the public mind?

THE PRINCE OF WALES BADLY FED.

In my judgment, the Prince of Wales is badly used. He is urged, by political counsellors of all parties, to abstain from politics; he is not by convictions what is called a pietist, nor by taste a connoisseur in those arts which his father encouraged, and which he left open to him! He cannot preside at a Conservative or a Liberal banquet: he would be a hypocrite if he attended Exeter Hall: the sole conversion of the Jews, at Exeter Hall; he cannot, with propriety, deliver a speech in the House of Lords; he cannot go to discuss scientific novelties at the Society of Arts. Of what remains to him he seems to me to make a respectable use. He goes to the races, he is a Free Mason, and aids the brethren by his influence and his purse; he attends hundreds of thousands of other folk at the vast great national races: he is sufficiently foolish to join members of both legislatures in shooting parties as a feral of his; he smokes cigars; he is fonder of talking to a pretty and a pleasant woman, than to an unattractive and unpleasant one. He lives on exciting rumor and scandal. I have constantly head outrageous stories as to his vices; but, in every case, them were contradicted by facts which proved the falsity of the narrative. He does not possess any qualities which win for him, as he might, the love of his people. He is not by nature a statesman, and, as the world goes, is fairly intelligent. I have shaken hands with him in his retinue with him, though I am thoroughly republican, I do not think it unbecoming in any man to say that in my impression on my mind that he was of a better disposition than nine out of ten of his critics. The feeling of indifference, I fancy, is only on the surface, and, if he dies, the public will be for a great display of grief. Justice will be done, at least, to his virtues of the negative order.

RADICAL MURMURS.

The murmurs to be heard amongst a certain section of the populace, are not from any knowledge of his career, but by that growing sentiment of discontent which is the one element of terror in the political world. More and more does a particular set among the poor contrast its own meagre lot with that of the great, and a conspicuous object, like a Prince, gets all the lighting there is on the air. Four missionaries, doctors, and others, who go much among the laboring class, describe the tendency I have alluded to as becoming embittered as education becomes somewhat more general. They see artisans' minds for their leads in a threatening manner, and hear them vow, "it shall not last long." Our time will come." The peril is not very great, but the condition of mind is worthy upon by incidents like the death of a Prince.

THE QUEEN AND THE PRINCE.

Report avers that the Queen and the Prince had not been particularly intimate of late. There was a coolness between them at the time of the commencement of the fever, and the first gave pungnancy to the pangs of the mother's heart. Happily she was on her way from Scotland, and was able speedily to bring help to person and love for her eldest son. For the greater part of this week the Prince has been delirious.

POSSIBLE POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS.

The possible political complications are manifold. A fatal issue to the illness might mean nothing to the Queen as to render a Regency necessary. A Regency—the sham of a sham! The Princess of Wales is pretty, good-natured, and kind: but she has no strength of character. She is without the artistic air of dignity and command which is given to Princes and Princesses by habit of their training. A slight, elegant woman—fond of a pleasant, innocent, butterfly life—she would be the puppet of her Ministers.

And as to Ministers: It is the belief of many that Mr. Gladstone's is the hand which will destroy the monarchy in England. The recent inventions and improvements in ironplate men-of-war and in artillery, have no doubt convinced England that the strategical value of these military outposts has disappeared. The case of Aden, of the Cape, of Gibraltar, is different. An army corps could be formed in that island, half way between England and India, and England will not be content to see the key to her power transferred to the hands of a Prince, has not, and for that letters of introduction are necessary. From whom is he bound to the present status quo? Of how many members should the American committee be composed, and would it be prudent to have on it a large merchant, a large banker, a clergyman, a journalist, and a statesman, so that all the different branches of activity here, and commerce be represented? M. R. would undertake all the London (England) work, and I would undertake all the American. A French committee is not necessary, nor is all politic. France represents a danger in the circumstances, and cannot well appoint people to decide how and cannot well collected in foreign lands. The necessary collected in foreign lands. The necessary millions for the memorial fund indicates the nature of the subscription. The money should be handed over to M. Leon Say, the Minister of Finance, and wrote President of the Republic to be distributed by them in the day intended. So fine

on Bitters. The object, though general and kind, was not remain distinct in England and America. France will benefit by the competition. If, on the revenue, the moneys are mixed, there can be no race between the two nations. Should there be but one committee or several sub-committees, which would have to communicate with the main committee, where would the main committee reside? The sums collected to be deposited in a bank until such time as the head committee thinks proper to make use of them. The municipalities having suffered would be required to land over their different statements.

For the purpose of carrying out the scheme he had obtained possession of paper which would be very useful to him, and he had also diagrams showing "the roots and branches of the American financial system."

A FRIGHTFUL WRECK.

Details of the Indiana Railroad Accident.

From the Terre Haute (Ind.) Gazette, Dec. 14.

Just as the *Gazette* was "made up" ready to go to press last afternoon, we learned of a terrible and fatal tragedy on the Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad, near St. Mary's.

It appears that a special train, running under telegraphic order from the train despatching office, consisting of twenty-five cars, was bound east over the I. & St. L. Road, in charge of Conductor Lafe Hale and Engineer O'Neill. Just beyond St. Mary's, of the Woods Collegiate Institute, this county, there is a bridge something about fifty feet high, where the road crosses Sugar Creek. About fifty yards east of the stone culvert the section boss of that section of the road and the men under his charge had removed two, or some say three, rails for the purpose of replacing them with new ones. They flagged the road just about six hundred yards west for the protection of any "wild trains" or train running under special orders from parties that should chance to come up from that direction. They are flagged on the east, but how far from the scene of their labors, we know not.

Just after they had taken up the old rails and planed the ends in position, this heavy special freight described above, came thundering down the grade with considerable velocity in order that it make the up grade this side. Upon nearing the signal the engineer observed it, gave three or four sharp whistles, calling brakes, reversed his engine, gave her steam, while the section boss and hands ran down the track on the north side. There were two brakesmen on the train, both on top, one at the front and the other at the rear of the same, the conductor on top, and a small boy on the caboose at the extreme rear end of the heavy line of freight cars. At the first call for brakes, the forward brakesman flew to his post on the first car from the tender, set the brake, leaped the car, set the second, leaped to the third, set that, and, looking further ahead, saw that the bridge covered it plunging down the steep declivity, and the cars following in rapid succession, the unpiked rail spreading and throwing the engine. Seeing the state of affairs as it appeared, made a "jump for life" from the top of the fourth car just as she was going over, alighting on his feet about twenty-five feet down the embankment, the impetus being so great that he was turned heels over head three consecutive times before he succeeded in stopping. The train, though on the opposite side from where the cars were rapidly following the engine and tender, which were rapidly being buried beneath the *debris*.

Engineer O'Neil, of Missouri, and fireman Griffith, of this city, were underneath the ruins, and both dead. The latter was found a short time afterward under the *débris*, while the former had not been found at the time we left last evening. The second brakesman also leaped from the train, as did the boy from the caboose. The conductor remained on the end car, only fifteen cars going over the bank, six of the cars following immediately after the tender, with the exception of one car of the New Line, all being laden with buffalo, bear, and other games in marketable condition, were loaded with hogs, principally from Kansas and Vermillion, Ill., to the Eastern market.

The Proposed Retrocession of Gibraltar.

From the New York Evening Post.

It will be interesting to know whether the character of Gibraltar as a "free port" will be maintained after the proposed retrocession to Spain falling into effect, and how it will make this a condition, as the importance of having a free port at that extreme point of Europe has been greatly increased of late years since the opening of the Suez Canal. The English Suez screw steam fleet, on its way to and from Liverpool, touches, midway on its route, at Gibraltar, and there leaves goods for Portugal and Spain. Real estate at Gibraltar would, no doubt, materially decline were Spain prospective to become a free commercial Spanish port of entry and thereby losing seven-eighths of its business, superseded as it would be by the two ports which flank it—Cadiz and Malaga.

To ourselves Gibraltar has been very convenient as a free port especially to our Greek merchants at New York. We send our vessels to Gibraltar for orders. Our petroleum ships, for instance, for the former years, run can be left at this free *entrepot* or vessels can discharge part of their cargoes there and part at Malta, finally proceeding to Constantinople; or they can be ordered by telegraph to any of the Portuguese or Spanish ports on entry. To lose Gibraltar as a free port will therefore be a positive disadvantage to our rapidly-increasing Mediterranean trade.

The last mail brought us the brief correspondence between Don Antonio Fernandez Garcia, a young Spanish editor at Malaga, and Mr. Livingstone, which reflects honor on both gentlemen and shows the power of the press in state matters. Garcia wrote to Gladstone as follows:

SIR: Several Spanish corporations intend memorializing the British government on some equitable method of retrocession of Gibraltar to Spain in conformity with the honor and position of both nations. Would it be in order for a document be acceptable to your Excellency?

This answer was received:

SIR: Mr. Gladstone authorizes me to state, in answer to yours of 23d ult., that he will be glad to receive any communication from the Corporation of Gibraltar. Respectfully,

J. L. GRANOX.

After the Ionian Islands have reverted to Greece, and Gibraltar has become Spanish again, Malta will probably be restored to Italy, as has already been intimated. Will Heligoland be returned to Germany? The recent inventions and improvements in ironplate men-of-war and in artillery, have no doubt convinced England that the strategical value of these military outposts has disappeared. The case of Aden, of the Cape, of Gibraltar, is different. An army corps could be formed in that island, half way between England and India, and England will not be content to see the key to her power transferred to the hands of a Prince, has not, and for that letters of introduction are necessary. From whom is he bound to the present status quo? Of how many members should the American committee be composed, and would it be prudent to have on it a large merchant, a large banker, a clergyman, a journalist, and a statesman, so that all the different branches of activity here, and commerce be represented? M. R. would undertake all the London (England) work, and I would undertake all the American. A French committee is not necessary, nor is all politic. France represents a danger in the circumstances, and cannot well appoint people to decide how and cannot well collected in foreign lands. The necessary millions for the memorial fund indicates the nature of the subscription. The money should be handed over to M. Leon Say, the Minister of Finance, and wrote President of the Republic to be distributed by them in the day intended. So fine

WASHINGTON.

Butler's New Committee—Nebraska Matters.

Life Insurance vs. Land--Notes on Bills.

Methodism and Politics—George Wilkes —Salve for Old Injuries.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.

BUTLER ON STATE DEBTS.

Now we begin to see why Mr. Ben Butler takes the Committee on the Revision of the Laws. It was decurred to him that the States, individually, are piling up debts, and that their bonds, being sold in other countries, often over-issued, and even now threatened with repudiation, might embroil us with friendly powers or affect our general credit. Perhaps there is something in this. And yet the motives of this man are always liable to imputation. More than any member of Congress from the North, he is responsible for the monstrous aggressions of the carpet-bag governments of the South. He has been the head and front of the carpet-bag and scallawag element in Congress, and always commanded their votes whenever he wished. It is in those States that the most atrocious overissues of bonds have occurred, and millions of dollars of them are sent to the North to be peddled around amongst the speculators at 25 cents on the dollar. We might, therefore, entitle this committee, to give it more distinction, the Jonathan Wild Committee on the Revision of the Laws.

NEBRASKA THINGS.

Senator Phineas W. Hitchcock, of Omaha, a native New Yorker, aged 40 years, and who will be in the Senate until 1877, says that Nebraska is receiving more and a better population than any State in the West at present, not excepting Missouri, Kansas, or Minnesota. The late Governor Butler, after a spasmodic effort to reappear in politics, has at length declined nearly to a level with the horizon. Amongst the growing towns of the State are Lincoln, Blair, Tremont, and Nebraska City. Senator Tipton continues irreconcilably antagonistic toward the President. Omaha, having had a hard time of it for several years past, is well-to-do again and looks the future in the face. Now that land in the State can be purchased from the government, except at public sale; but there is plenty of cheap land to be had from private owners, from $2 to $6 per acre. Senator Hitchcock said $1.50, several years ago, for some land outlying Omaha, had been refused. For $150 per acre. The average local land taxes throughout Nebraska are about $12 per 160 acres. Cattle which will graze is a valuable thing for young married men and Eastern folks—who now spend $200 a year for life insurance—and stand the risk of losing it by some accidental non-payment—to put their money in Western lands. One thousand dollars in hand will buy a good farm and found a short time afterward under the *débris*, while the former had not been found at the time we left last evening. The second brakesman also leaped from the train, as did the boy from the caboose. The conductor remained on the end car, only fifteen cars going over the bank, six of the cars following immediately after the tender, with the exception of one car of the New Line, all being laden with buffalo, bear, and other games in marketable condition, were loaded with hogs, principally from Kansas and Vermillion, Ill., to the Eastern market.

LIFE INSURANCE ON LIFE INSURANCE.

When I was in Utah, I heard Brigham Young's notions about life insurance. A respectable general agent came to him one day to obtain his patronage and endorsement of a well-established Eastern insurance company. Brigham treated him with courtesy, and, after hearing all that he knew, replied: "If I should change my views on this head," said he, "and take out insurance, I shall go to the established old life insurance company amongst ourselves, so that, if there shall be any profits, we shall have the advantage of them. I shall not patronize any establishment and establishing our business, instead of contributing thousands of dollars annually to help to support Jonathan Wild Hartford and New York. Life-insurance, in case of young people and those who get fair earnings, is a good thing, by way of providing for the future. It often proceeds on the assumption that a man will, of himself, save nothing, sacrifice nothing, pinch nothing, get the family used to it, and children; and that he must take chances upon his death by putting money in the hands of a company. We don't do that way here," continued Brigham, "who have contributed several hundred dollars in insurance, and, counting up some one day, found that all interest in their policies has passed from their hands. In this country money is worth more, has more purchasing power, than in the old neighborhood, and in the high rate of interest which it bears, than it can make, under ordinary circumstances, after the life insurance. A man who starts life afraid that he cannot save anything, through either his own weakness or profligacy, or through the ills to life-insurance, throws away the stimulus for thrift and vigilance." Brigham has since started a life-insurance company, has secured and put at the head of it a Gentile, formerly Secretary of the Territory.

WINKS AT LEGISLATION.

Mr. Duell, of New York, wants a new judicial district created in the northern part of that State, comprising the city of Rochester, Canandaigua, Binghamton, and Syracuse, as well as at Albany, Plattsburgh, Utica, Saratoga, and Ogdensburgh.

Mr. Porter, of Virginia,—the man who got kicked some time ago,—wants civil and criminal law to be extended to the Southern States removed to the Federal Courts.

Little tinkering bills for the removal of disabilities appear plenteously amongst the documents.

Mr. Marshall, of Illinois, wants the government to incorporate the Mississippi & Ohio Railroad, and Senator Conover wants the railways which meet at Cairo; the Tunnel Company to have a capital of $10,000,000, divided into 100,000 shares, of $100 each. The corporators are N. R. Curtis, W. F. Coolbaugh, W. R. Halliday, S. S. Taylor, and J. H. Burnett, of Illinois; and the other 15 incorporators are General Burnside, Thomas A. Scott, W. S. Rescorans, and J. F. Joy.

Mr. Burnett, of Kentucky, from Homestead Bureau Commission incorporated; amongst the Commissioners are Henry W. Believe, Jr., Prince, Agnes D. Lugood, and Henry Ward Beecher. The board shall accept and purchase real and personal estate in the Territories—particularly soil, improved and unimproved.

Syracuse, N. Y., applies for an $80,000 Post Office.

S. S. Cox wants the United States Courts to entertain all proceedings regarding indictions, etc., pertaining to the assessments, regarding legality and constitutionality of any tax levied by Congress.

North Carolina applies for 2,000,000 acres of public lands to endow school education.

THE REV. MR. M'OWN.

I read, with fatigue, the low down letter of Brother M'Own, of Boston. There have the preacher in politics again. He remarks: "The Methodist Church will do her part to counteract the evil tendencies of the times" "as to pieces the characters of men in high places, is a crime against society, as also against God, which will in due time bring its punishment, as slavery did." This is really to men in high places, and, besides, trash. It sounds like the bellow of one of the Pope's wicked bulls. You can't name anybody in these times, my ancient of days! It's none of your business, as a Church, to denounce any party in this government. In affirming your right to do so, you admit all this not down. The people of the government, no people, prefer no one Church above any other. There are only three Churches which are even named in American politics—the Roman, the Methodist, and the Mormon. The Methodist people are a liberal, patriotic, and spiritual sect, doing good in every range of the country; and they are unaware that individuals are peddling in politics upon their good name, and that ambition, by which fall angels, has entered into the hearts of many of their trusted clergy. I pronounce McKown's assumption to predict what God will do a bit of irreverent cant. Is he authorized him to prophesy? The locutory of his letter is despicable, being nothing more than a priestly threat to cut off a secular newspaper for discussing a notorious and flagrant abuse of the spiritual prerogative. Sermonizing does not reach this subject. Bulls in these days are not worth burning, much less reading.

CUNDURANGO AGAIN.

Let us get out of blatherskite into solid beneficence: Cundurango. I wrote you, last week, that a Dr. Garnett, contemporary of Dr. Bliss, its introducer, had belittled it—indeed, libelled it. To-day I met a prominent officer of the Legislative Department of the Government, who refused me the use of his name for delicate reasons of family, and who related the following story:

His wife had suffered with cancerous deposit in the breast and shoulders,—swelling, hardening, and stiffening the whole of that side, so that the arm was like a statue's. He appealed to the leading surgeon in Boston, who said that there was no cure in the pharmacopœia for cancer, but that the knife due to superior years. What serious consequences were apprehended from the operation I could not guess at. It is reasoning to learn that the amicable relations of Russia and Germany will not be disturbed. Whether an imperial Grand Duke could give "honorable satisfaction" to the world, though nominally a Prince, has no principality, will, doubtless, be a nice question of Court etiquette. It would puzzle an erudite genealogist to fix the precise status of Henry VII. of the cadet branch of the collateral line of Reuss-Schleiz-Kolstritz. There may be found in the *Heralds' Office* notice, more or less detailed, of some thirteen personages who, in one way or another, are Princes of Reuss. It is to be feared, therefore, that the fashionable world of St. Petersburg will not be gratified by an exciting termination to this reported episode.

—The weekly circular of the London *Open Stock Exchange* expresses the opinion—it may be questioned whether we are not becoming better informed on the mining districts of Utah, Nevada, &c., than the Americans themselves."

The Rebuilding of Peshtigo.

From the Green Bay (Wis.) Advocate, Dec. 14.

The speed with which the village of Peshtigo is being rebuilt is something remarkable, considering the total destruction there. The fire occurred on the 8th of October, and up to last Saturday night, nine weeks after the fire, fifty-two buildings had been put up. The Peshtigo Company have a planing mill and grist mill up, the latter running night and day. Fred Bartells has a store in operation. Girard has a blacksmith shop on the site of old No. 2 boarding house. David Lister has rebuilt his foundry, larger than the old one. John Dress has a good two-story hotel up. Levi Hale has put up a hotel building on the sight of the Peshtigo Hotel. J. C. McGillis, architect, is building on the site of Dr. Carroll's store, at the end of the bridge. A. B. Phillips and J. Johnson are building a large hotel on West Front street, on the site of the New Line depot. Omaha, having had a hard time of it for several years past, is well-to-do again and looks the future in the face. Now that land in the State can be purchased from the government, except at public sale; but there is plenty of cheap land to be had from private owners, from $2 to $6 per acre. Senator Hitchcock said $1.50, several years ago, for some land outlying Omaha, had been refused. For $150 per acre. The average local land taxes throughout Nebraska are about $12 per 160 acres. Cattle which will graze is a valuable thing for young married men and Eastern folks—who now spend $200 a year for life insurance—and stand the risk of losing it by some accidental non-payment—to put their money in Western lands. One thousand dollars in hand will buy a good farm and found a short time afterward under the *débris*, while the former had not been found at the time we left last evening. The second brakesman also leaped from the train, as did the boy from the caboose. The conductor remained on the end car, only fifteen cars going over the bank, six of the cars following immediately after the tender, with the exception of one car of the New Line, all being laden with buffalo, bear, and other games in marketable condition, were loaded with hogs, principally from Kansas and Vermillion, Ill., to the Eastern market.

The Proposed Retrocession of Gibraltar.

From the New York Evening Post.

It will be interesting to know whether the character of Gibraltar as a "free port" will be maintained after the proposed retrocession to Spain falling into effect, and how it will make this a condition, as the importance of having a free port at that extreme point of Europe has been greatly increased of late years since the opening of the Suez Canal. The English Suez screw steam fleet, on its way to and from Liverpool, touches, midway on its route, at Gibraltar, and there leaves goods for Portugal and Spain. Real estate at Gibraltar would, no doubt, materially decline were Spain prospective to become a free commercial Spanish port of entry and thereby losing seven-eighths of its business, superseded as it would be by the two ports which flank it—Cadiz and Malaga.

To ourselves Gibraltar has been very convenient as a free port especially to our Greek merchants at New York. We send our vessels to Gibraltar for orders. Our petroleum ships, for instance, for the former years, run can be left at this free *entrepot* or vessels can discharge part of their cargoes there and part at Malta, finally proceeding to Constantinople; or they can be ordered by telegraph to any of the Portuguese or Spanish ports on entry. To lose Gibraltar as a free port will therefore be a positive disadvantage to our rapidly-increasing Mediterranean trade.

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Methodism and Politics—George Wilkes —Salve for Old Injuries.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.

BUTLER ON STATE DEBTS.

Now we begin to see why Mr. Ben Butler takes the Committee on the Revision of the Laws. It was decurred to him that the States, individually, are piling up debts, and that their bonds, being sold in other countries, often over-issued, and even now threatened with repudiation, might embroil us with friendly powers or affect our general credit. Perhaps there is something in this. And yet the motives of this man are always liable to imputation. More than any member of Congress from the North, he is responsible for the monstrous aggressions of the carpet-bag governments of the South. He has been the head and front of the carpet-bag and scallawag element in Congress, and always commanded their votes whenever he wished. It is in those States that the most atrocious overissues of bonds have occurred, and millions of dollars of them are sent to the North to be peddled around amongst the speculators at 25 cents on the dollar. We might, therefore, entitle this committee, to give it more distinction, the Jonathan Wild Committee on the Revision of the Laws.

NEBRASKA THINGS.

Senator Phineas W. Hitchcock, of Omaha, a native New Yorker, aged 40 years, and who will be in the Senate until 1877, says that Nebraska is receiving more and a better population than any State in the West at present, not excepting Missouri, Kansas, or Minnesota. The late Governor Butler, after a spasmodic effort to reappear in politics, has at length declined nearly to a level with the horizon. Amongst the growing towns of the State are Lincoln, Blair, Tremont, and Nebraska City. Senator Tipton continues irreconcilably antagonistic toward the President. Omaha, having had a hard time of it for several years past, is well-to-do again and looks the future in the face. Now that land in the State can be purchased from the government, except at public sale; but there is plenty of cheap land to be had from private owners, from $2 to $6 per acre. Senator Hitchcock said $1.50, several years ago, for some land outlying Omaha, had been refused. For $150 per acre. The average local land taxes throughout Nebraska are about $12 per 160 acres. Cattle which will graze is a valuable thing for young married men and Eastern folks—who now spend $200 a year for life insurance—and stand the risk of losing it by some accidental non-payment—to put their money in Western lands. One thousand dollars in hand will buy a good farm and found a short time afterward under the *débris*, while the former had not been found at the time we left last evening. The second brakesman also leaped from the train, as did the boy from the caboose. The conductor remained on the end car, only fifteen cars going over the bank, six of the cars following immediately after the tender, with the exception of one car of the New Line, all being laden with buffalo, bear, and other games in marketable condition, were loaded with hogs, principally from Kansas and Vermillion, Ill., to the Eastern market.

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Sir Charles Dilke's Addresses—Disorderly Proceedings at Bolton.

Sir Charles Dilke delivered an address at Bolton, November 30, on the subject of "Representation and Registration" which was made the occasion of a very serious riot. The meeting, which was held in the Temperance Hall, was announced to begin at 8 o'clock, but 3,000 tickets were issued for a preliminary meeting at 6, exclusively, of course, of the supporters of Sir Charles. The Chairman proposed that the meeting adjourn before 7, that the doors should be thrown open to the public, but as there were hundreds of persons assembled outside who were shouting, hissing, and singing the "National Anthem," the proposition was met by a decided opposition. Sir Charles delivered an address, but was compelled to be brief, as stones of large size and other missiles were thrown at the windows in front of the hall, and many persons were struck, including some of those on the platform and a representative of the press. Attempts were made to force the doors, the panels of which were broken out, but a large number of roughs in fact meeting were armed. The police were prepared, to give their assailants a warm reception if they presented themselves. A desperate fight occurred in the vestibule, but the Conservatives were repulsed. The Chief Constable and several magistrates forced their way into the hall, having been sent for by the Chairman. Mr. Joseph Mellor announced that they were prepared to protect property, but recommended that the meeting should be dissolved. A large force of borough and county police were by this time in front of the hall, and stones, though ineffectually, to keep order. The Conservatives were then admitted. Sir Charles had by this time finished his address, and a petition in favor of its objects having been adopted, the meeting was declared at an end. A scene of the wildest confusion followed, during which Sir Charles and his friends left the hall unnoticed by the mob. The roughs in the hall armed with cudgels attacked each other with the greatest fury, and many persons were very seriously injured. The reporters' table was thrown down and smashed into fragments, the pieces being taken and used as cudgels. Meanwhile the crowds in the gallery and other parts of the hall were singing the "National Anthem" and "Rule Britannia." The police at length escorted themselves very vigorously to clear the place, and after great difficulty this was accomplished, but thousands of persons loitered in the neighborhood for a long time.

The State Penitentiary.

From the Joliet (Ill.) Republican, Dec. 15.

On Monday, the 11th inst., there were 1,218 convicts on the rolls, 1,215 of whom are males. There is no village or community containing such a number of persons in which there are so few on the sick list. The Saturday before there were but thirty-nine unfit for duty. The females are engaged in the sewing room, and in making coats, &c., for prisoners' outfits when they are discharged, by doing which they earn as much for the State on a like number of male convicts do, and the latter-named class are employed as follows: Two hundred and eighty-five are working in the shops, one hundred and thirty-three are making cigars, under a contract, by which they earn $1,000 per month; two hundred and seventy-two are making boots and shoes, under contract, for which they earn $1,000 per month; one hundred and seventy-three are contracted as coopers, and are making 70 1-3 casks each per day; thirty-one are contracted as tailors, and earn 75 cents each per day; eighty-five machinists and foundrymen get 60 cents each per day; eighty have just been taken out of the quarry who will also be put into the foundry as soon as the alterations therein are completed; forty-two are employed in the kitchen the next thirty days; and the balance (except the invalids) are employed in and about the yard. Only one hundred and fifty-nine are now making harness, &c.,

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

A monument has been erected to the memory of Piera Mediconi in the church-yard of Villasir, Island of Syros, over the grave of the husband. It occupies a commanding position, and is a height about 300 feet immediately above the sea at the extreme north-west of the island, and will be a conspicuous object to vessels passing up the Minoh within sight of it.

The Emperor of Austria is an inveterate smoker, but he dislikes spirituous liquors. The Empress, owing to her feeble health, is a strict vegetarian, and the imperial dinner is never restaurant over three courses.

A new guillotine has lately been introduced by M. Heinrich, Executioner General of Paris. M. Heinrich, who is a very humane man, thought it was cruel to force criminals to walk a distance from their cells, and then to go a flight of stairs to be killed, and his new machine is so arranged that there is no occasion for them to ascend. The condemned no sooner emerges from the prison than he is thrown down on the planks, secured, and his head thrust under the knife, which is made heavier and broader than before. But the application of the new machine was not entirely successful, as the victim, after being under the knife, contrived to get his head loose, and to scream aloud until he was again secured, and the knife fell.

Prince Bismark and his most formidable adversary, Bishop Ketteler, of Mayence, were educated together at Gottingen, and there resided under the same roof, in which Ketteler was wounded. Afterwards they became fast friends and members of the same "corps" of students. Ketteler is now the leader of the ultramontanist party in the German Parliament, and by far the ablest and most eloquent of Bismark's opponents.

It may be remembered that many of the British officers were married on leaving their homes at the outbreak of the late war, without obtaining, for lack of time, the royal license, which is necessary to the legality of marriages. It was a rather risky proceeding on the part of the brides, because any subsequent application for the royal license must be made by the groom, and we hear of a case in which the rascal refuses to apply.

They have had a new and rather whimsical development of photography in London. A young woman married to an old man goes out for a walk and meets somewhere in the street a man with whom she has some acquaintance. He stops and speaks to her. They are conversing, an itinerant photographer, a new sort of street character here, happens and makes a group of the unconscious pair. He then shows it to them and they are pleased, and the man buys it and presents it to the woman, who takes it home and puts it in the drawer. Very foolishly, she does not tell her husband, and the latter, finding the photograph, at once assumes that the two have met together must be lovers, and in spite of jealous fury he attempts to kill his wife. No explanation satisfies him, and at a public meeting that the Queen is a drunkard, writes to the *Western Morning Advertiser* that he made the statement on his own authority, but on the assurance of a gentleman who asserted that he had seen it and had made the same statement in writing and on a public platform in the presence of a member of Parliament. Dr. Gibbs threatens prosecution for libel unless Mr. Hart, who laid the information before the Magistrates.

A woman hung herself in London lately, because her husband had sentenced her for taking to the lodgers in the house." In the evidence before the Coroner that the deceased was of a kindly disposition, though frequent quarrels with her husband. A farewell missive, curiously enough, she had indited on the back of a large tea-tray, and ran as follows: "Dear Jim—You have driven me to do this little affair. Be good to the children, and ask Mrs. Little to be kind to them."

Mr. James Phillippe, of Bedford Row, London, has made a startling announcement to the English papers, which must cause a sensation into hundreds of aristocratic families. What Colonso has done to Pentateuch, Mr. Philippe has done to the Australian volumes, the British Peerage. He has discovered that "nearly the whole of the peerages hitherto published are fictitious, and the genealogical MSS. in the British Museum are simply trash." While "as to Heralds' College having any right to the name of arms, it is so absurd that it is a wonder that any person should be such unmitigated donkeys as to entertain any such idea."

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil, in making a European tour, seem bent on losing only golden opinions behind them. The Emperor has long been distinguished for his enlightened views and his practical interest in all liberal studies. On his visit he has displayed a lack of curiosity and an intelligent curiosity as such at variance with the habit of royal tourists. While in London, he frequently astonished the attendants by getting up and roaming about the streets long before breakfast, and now the Empress has created a sensation in her crowned circle by such democratic conduct. Few monarchs can boast of such a wife as the Empress Theresa at Naples, recently the royal party visited the famous Grotto. The sea being rough the Empress remained outside in a small boat. Suddenly a fisherman, by whose side she was standing, lost his balance, fell overboard, and was drowned. In all probability have been followed, but the Empress caught him as he was sinking by a great exertion, held him until the arrival of a boat.

Two of the Crown Princes of Europe are young and healthy men. Six of them are likely to live to ascend the thrones of their fathers. The Czarowitch is Russia has been a chronic invalid almost from birth, and at 15 was hardly expected to reach manhood. His son and heir, too, is a sickly child. The son of Sultan Abdul Aziz is consumptive. Russian in the various capitals of Europe make the Crown Prince of Egypt born in 1863 before his time. The Count of Flanders, brother of King Leopold of Belgium, the presumptive heir to the throne, is hearty, and suffers from heart disease. The son of Crown Prince Frederick, of Prussia, too, is by no means good. The prospects for a short future union of the three Scandinavian kingdoms under his sceptre. The Prince Randolph, now 15 years of age, is said to be seems feeble, and is not likely to live long. The Crown Prince of Germany is in good health; but his friend and the Crown Prince Albert, of Saxe-Coburg, and the heirs to the throne of Baden, and Hesse are all feeble.

Several Missionaries in the South Sea Islands.

The steamer Moses Taylor, which arrived at San Francisco from Australia on the 7th, brings the following exciting news: Under date of October 31 the astounding intelligence was received in Auckland, New Zealand, of the murder of Bishop Patteson, of the Melanesian Mission, Rev. Mr. Atkins and a native, and the customary cruise on the mission schooner Southern Cross among the South Sea Islands. The circumstances of the murder will best be given in the words of Captain Jacob, of the mission-vessel:

Mr. Atkins' stay at Wonga he was joined by the Captain of the Emma Bell, from him he was going to Santa Cruz for. This news made the Bishop very uneasy, as he well knew that if a vessel was in mischief would result from it. He therefore made up his mind to go to the Reef and ascertain if any vessels had been about. On the 17th of October made Santa Cruz; very light all September 20, light winds off Nukapu. About four miles distant saw five canoes coming out. When within a mile or so of the vessel they lay-to. We thought at first they did not come alongside on account of the heavy swell they would have been obliged to have boarded us six or seven at a time. The Bishop had the boat lowered and went to them. This was the last we saw of him. It being low water, the boat could not go over the reef. The Bishop waited for him to do so for a time and went on shore, accompanied by two Chiefs, Taula and Motu; the canoes remaining with the boat. After the Bishop would have left the natives in the canoes attacked Stephen, a native of Bouro, had a spear in his breast; John, of Mota, shot in the side. The boat was by the Bessie, and we got the rest of her. Mr. Brooks looking immediately sent Mr. Bongard, three of our crew, and two black boys acting as pilot (for none of the natives anything about the place) to the Bishop. I told them to keep off the reef till they were sure they had time to cross, then pull toward the boat out of arrow shot, and if the Bishop not to go in. All this was beclimed. shortly after the vessel a breeze sprung up, and worked the vessel close to the reef, but her presence might intimidate the natives from attacking the boat. Two canoes put off in two canoes from the shore. One of them then turned adrift; the other went back to the shore. Presently I went toward the drifting canoe, and found the dead body of the Bishop in her, coiled up in a native mat. A small branch of the cocoa-nut palm, with five knots, was stuck in the mat. What the palm with the knots meant, we could not tell. He was stripped of his clothes, his head frightfully smashed, and several wounds in the body.

It is quite certain that some vessel has been here ill-using the natives, a very short time previous to our coming, or they never would have killed the Bishop. Every year he called at this place he would give the chiefs and people presents, and remain a considerable part of the day on shore with them."

DEATH'S HOSPITAL.

A Horrible Chinese Custom.

From the San Francisco Morning Call, Dec. 8.

Yesterday morning Coroner Stillman was notified that a Chinaman, named Hen Yee, who belonged to the Ning Yuen Company, had died suddenly at the hospital of the Ning Yuen Company, on Dupont alley, a small lane leading off Dupont street, near Broadway. The Coroner visited the premises and found that the Chinaman, who had been sick for some time from a chronic disease, had been placed in what was called a hospital and left there to die, and that while the man was dying, or immediately after his death, rats gnawed the body, eating the flesh from off the back of the left hand, and also from a portion of the nose. Later in the day one of the reporters of the *Call*, accompanied by a Chinese interpreter, visited the place, which the Chinese term a hospital. The place is a room on the ground floor of the company's building, which at one time was used as a place of worship, but now has been abandoned for such a purpose, and is dark, dirty, offensive to the smell, and as good a subject as the Health Officer might ever wish to see, or suppress as a nuisance. The ceiling and the walls are black with smoke arising from burnt joss-stick and joss-papers, while the floor is covered with nearly an inch of dirt, showing that water and brooms are strangers to the place. A most offensive smell pervaded the room at the time. In one corner of the premises were three candles burning, which served only to make darkness visible, and near this lay rolled up in an old, dirty, and torn bed-cover, the body of the deceased. A Chinaman raised the cover, and exhibited to view the body of a Chinaman, whose emaciated features showed plainly that he had been the victim of some disease for a long period previous to his death. His long bony hands were black with dirt, as also was his face, and when the rats had gnawed his flesh the appearance of the body was rendered still more horrible. A Chinaman, who appeared to be in charge of the place, was questioned by the interpreter, and the substance of his statement is that the deceased had been sick for many months, and that his cousin had expended $150 among Chinese physicians to cure him, but that they had given him up to die, and therefore he had been brought to the hospital; that he was brought there at 10 o'clock on Wednesday night, was laid on the floor, and that he died at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. He stated that it was a common occurrence for Chinamen in a dying condition to be brought there to die, and that it was nothing unusual for rats to eat away the eyes, the nose, and lips, before the bodies were removed. Coroner Stillman will inquire into the death of this Chinaman; and he states that he will take steps to put a stop to the practice of bringing Chinamen to hospitals of this character to die.

DENTISTRY.

DENTISTRY!

Dr. A. J. HARRIS,
(Late of Harris & Cleveland), and
Dr. L. P. HASKELL,
(For many years with Dr. W. W. Allport),
Occupy the Most Centrally-Located Office in Chicago, at
400 Wabash-av.,
In connection with Dr. JOHN C. FULLER. Long experience and established reputation for skill to all that pertains to the DENTAL ART is a guarantee of the times.

Particular attention is called to our higher grades of Plate-Work, such as Gold and Continuous Gum, as well as Rubber, at prices that all can reach.

CONFECTIONERY.

CONFECTIONERY!

M. E. PAGE & CO.,
53 South Green-st.,
On and after Monday, December 25, and during the Holidays, we will Retail Candy at Wholesale Prices.

Mixed Candy, 3 and 5 pound packs.
Extra Mixed, 3 and 5 pound packs.
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We will keep open every evening.

All Goods Will be FRESH, and Warranted PURE.

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(Incorporated November, 1859),
NO. 1 WALL-ST., NEW YORK.

Engraving and Printing of Bank Notes, Drafts, Certificates of Stock, Checks, State, County, and Railroad Bonds, Bills of Exchange, Postage Stamps, Insurance, Policies, Railroad Papers, and Commercial Papers in the highest style of the art, with SPECIAL SAFEGUARDS devised by the Company and patented TO PREVENT COUNTERFEITING AND ALTERATIONS. All Steel Plates, engraved and printed by the Company are warranted to give 20,000 good impressions, without charge for repairs. No Agency in Chicago.

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A complete assortment of Teas importations always on hand, and for sale at importers' lowest prices. Merchants can have our monthly Price List mailed to them regularly by sending us their address.

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IMPORTERS OF
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We have a large stock of Hermitage and Old Crow, the finest copper-distilled Whiskey in the world.

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(ESTABLISHED 1865.)
Consignments of all kinds of building material and bricks solicited from the country immediately, as we are getting orders daily for more brick, &c., than we can fill. Money advanced on consignments.
P. S.—1,500,000 bricks for sale to day in lots to suit.
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Wanted---Several Copies of the WEEKLY TRIBUNE for several years past, for which a liberal price will be paid.
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SKATES AND SLEIGH BELLS.

SKATES & SLEIGH BELLS,
AT
J. L. WAYNE & SONS,
14 NORTH CANAL-ST.

RESTAURANT.

HOTEL TABLE
At the Imperial Parlors, 584 Wabash-av. 50 cts. per meal.

ORGANS.

Estey Organ.
STOREY & CAMP, General Agents, 409 West Randolph-st. Organs to rent or for sale on instalments.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

CHRISTMAS.

A. H. MILLER,
479 Wabash-av.,
Corner Eldridge-court,
will open the finest stock of Holiday Goods in Chicago, consisting of Diamonds, Watches, Bracelets, Chains, Lockets, Necklaces, and Jewelry of every description.

On Tuesday morning I will open an elegant assortment of French Clocks, Bronzes, Fans, and Paris Fancy Goods, direct from Paris, being personal selections just before the fire.

A. H. MILLER,
[ESTABLISHED 1856.]
479 Wabash-av.,
CORNER OF ELDRIDGE-COURT.

German, French and English
GIFT BOOKS.
Classical and Modern Music for the Holidays, at EDW. BUEHLER'S Fancy Book and Music Store, 371 Wabash-av., near Post Office.

Christmas is Coming.
The finest collection of chromos, handsomely framed, is to be found at H. S. HAAS', 718 Wabash-av., and will be sold cheap for the holidays. Don't forget to call at 718 Wabash-av.

JEWELRY.

EDSON H. GOODRICH,
Late Goodrich, Kirby & Co.,
REMOVED TO
931 Wabash-av.,
NEAR TWENTIETH-ST.
Watches, Jewelry,
SILVER AND PLATED WARE.
Prices Lower than Ever.
WON'T RETURN,
but will sell here at REDUCED PRICES, the large stock of DIAMONDS, WATCHES, FRENCH CLOCKS, AND FANCY GOODS, ordered during the past summer in Europe for our New Store, 53 and 55 State-st.

CILES, BRO. & CO.
384 Wabash-av.
BRANCHES—267 West Madison-st., and 155 Twenty-second-st.

W. B. LANGLEY,
Wholesale dealer in
Cheap Watches and Jewelry,
24 North Canal-st., Chicago, Ill.

SAFES.

CALL AND SEE
THE FINEST STOCK OF
Fire & Burglar-Proof
SAFES.
MARVIN & CO.,
17 South Canal-st.

ARTISTS' FUND.

Artists' Fund.

Seven thousand dollars have been received by us from New York, for distribution among Chicago Artists who suffered by the fire. All such are invited to meet us at the Tremont House at 8 o'clock, on TUESDAY, Dec. 19, for consultation as to the distribution to be made of the money.
JOHN F. STAFFORD,
WM. BROSS,
B. F. CULVER,
Committee.

CHEMICALS.

Sal Soda, Alum,
COPPERAS,
Bi-Chromate Potash,
and a large line of DYERS' CHEMICALS.
250 Carboys Sulphuric Acid, 66°,
100 Carboys Muriatic Acid,
50 Carboys Nitric Acid, concentrated,
50 Carboys Aqua Ammonia,
AT CLOSE FIGURES.
Empty Carboys can be returned, and will be credited at prices charged. A heavy stock of Dye Woods and Dye Stuffs of superior description always on hand.
ENOS BROWN & CO.,
58 South Canal-st.

FOR SALE.

WHOLESALE DEALERS.
A valuable Lease for sale, near corner of Washington and Canal-sts. Will be sold low, present proprietor closing business. Address L. LAWRENCE, Tribune office.

Sugar-Cured Bacon Hams.
Just received, a small consignment of the celebrated "MARYLAND BRAND" of Canvassed, Sugar-Cured Hams; Also, of the "SIMMS BRAND" of Hams, both well known and highly appreciated in the Eastern and Southern cities. They are tolerably heavy, average 16 to 18 lbs; are in choice order; very fine, and most suitable for the requirements of hotels and restaurants. Will be sold at moderate prices in quantities of 1 piece upward, to close consignment by
HENRY MILWARD & CO.,
33 Market-st.

OLD NEWSPAPERS
FOR SALE AT
Tribune Office,
15 South Canal-st.

BRICK
For sale in quantities to suit, arriving daily; delivery prompt. Can be seen on cars, cor. Clark and Twenty-fifth-sts.
JOHN F. SCANLAN, 164 West Adams-st.

1,000 BRLS. CIDER.
We have for sale, and shall keep constantly on hand, Michigan Clover, manufactured in years 1869, 1870, 1871. All warranted pure. CURTISS & CANTRIL, Produce Commission Merchants and Dealers in Domestic Dried Fruits, 127 Michigan-av.

REMOVALS.

REMOVAL.
The State Savings Institution
HAVE REMOVED TO
MADISON-ST.,
three doors east of the bridge, in the new CENTRAL UNION BLOCK, and will remain there until the completion of its Fire-Proof Building on the old site, 80 and 82 LaSalle-st.

JOHN C. HAINES, - - - President
JOHN C. DORE, - - Vice President
CHARLES D. RICKFORD, - - Cashier
ALBERT D. CUILD, - Assistant Cashier

Office hours, from 10 o'clock a. m. to 3 p. m., and on Saturday evenings from 6 to 8 o'clock.

REMOVAL.
The Union National Bank will be opened on MONDAY MORNING, the 18th inst., in their new and spacious office in the "Central Union Block," northwest corner of Madison and Market-sts. Our customers are welcome to the use of our large fire-proof vaults for the security of valuable papers.
W. F. COOLBAUGH, Pres't.
C. T. WHEELER, Vice Pres't.
GEO. A. IVES, Cashier.
Chicago, Dec. 15, 1870.

CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN RAILWAY CO.
General Freight and Ticket Agents' Offices,
REMOVED TO
140 NORTH UNION-ST.
C. C. WHEELER, Gen. Freight Agent.
H. P. STANWOOD, Gen. Ticket Agent.

REMOVAL.
Fifth National Bank has removed to its new Banking House, corner of Madison-st. and Fifth-av., where it has substantial fire-proof vaults.
C. B. SAWYER, Pres.
T. LUDINGTON, Vice Pres.
ISAAC G. LOMBARD, Cashier.

BANKING.

The Commercial LOAN COMPANY
Has purchased, since the great fire, the stone-front building, 129 ARCHER-A.V., junction Twenty-second-st., and have remodeled business as usual in said building. A first-class fire-proof vault is completed. The patrons of the Bank can deposit valuable papers or articles in said vault without charge.
THE COMMERCIAL LOAN CO. will transact a savings as well as a general banking business, sell bills of exchange on New York, and the principal cities of Europe.
The Commercial Loan Co. has also secured a twenty years lease of the northwest corner of North Clark and Michigan-sts. A fire-proof building and vault is now being built on said lot, and we expect to resume our North Side business above the first day of January next.
TOLMAN WHEELER, PRES. MEYER, Cashier.
TRUSTEES—M. D. Buchanan, Conrad Gehrke, Tolman Wheeler, C. Kann, Wm. Kooke, Wm. A. Krieg, Jr., Bjornson Meier, S. A. Meyer, Thomas Buchanan, Jr., Fred. Meyer, O. Cronkhite.
CHICAGO, Nov. 30, 1871.

Dry Goods Bank.
CAPITAL, $1,000,000.
336 Broadway, - NEW YORK.
DIRECTORS.

Jarvis Slade,	Matthias Dunham & Co.
Samuel B. Dana,	Upham, Tucker & Co.
Columbus O. Iselin,	John S. T. Stran Wright & Co.
M. P. Hunt,	Spaulding, Hunt & Co.
Walter H. Lewis,	Lewis Brothers & Co.
Edward M. Townsend	Townsend & Yale.
Jacob Wendell,	T. C. Rowe & Co.
J. S. Fisher,	
James Kennedy, Ernest, Hammond & Pomeroy, (Counsel.)	
Hewlett Scudder,	Jones, Underhill & Scudder.
George F. Victor,	F. Victor & Achelis.
Bryce Grey,	James F. White & Co.
Edward K. Foor,	Denny, Foor & Co.
Chas. G. Shaw,	Shaw, Barbour & Co. (of Cincinnati.)
Josep Alsop,	Alsop & Co.
Wm. Post,	Whittemore, Post, Post & Co.
Jesse Seligman,	J. & W. Seligman & Co.
William P. Brimmell,	

Accounts of Banks, Bankers, Merchants, Manufacturers and dealers generally throughout the country are solicited. Collections promptly remitable at par. Interest allowed on Banks and Bankers' balances.
WILLIAM P. BRINTNALL, President.
CHARLES E. BOOBY, Cashier.

Real Estate Loan and Trust Co.
SAVINGS BANK.
SOUTH SIDE OFFICE,
685 Wabash-av.
WEST SIDE OFFICE,
121 WEST WASHINGTON-ST.
BENJ. LOMBARD, President.
S. A. BRIGGS, Vice President.

E. G. EASTMAN & CO.,
BANKERS,
No. 43 South Canal-st.,
Organized November 1, 1871.
Business the same as an incorporated Bank. Drafts on Baring Bros. & Co., London, and on the principal cities of Europe. Gold Drafts on New York. Accounts received on favorable terms.

NOTICE.
The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the FIFTH NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the Office of said Bank, in Chicago, on Tuesday, January 9, 1872, between the hours of 3 and 5 p. m.
ISAAC G. LOMBARD, Cashier.

BANKING HOUSE OF
LUNT, PRESTON & KEAN,
MASONIC BUILDING,
Corner of Halsted and Randolph-sts.
BANK OF DISCOUNT AND DEPOSIT. Sterling Bills on London. Gold Drafts on New York.

REAL ESTATE.

Residence for Sale.
I offer for sale or exchange, to a responsible party that will contract to put up a brick block by the 1st of May next, in the best district, my two-story and basement brick residence, located on the north side of Washington-st., three blocks west of Union Park. Lot 50x173 feet, to an alley. House has been built two years, and contains 11 rooms, besides bath room, laundry, cisern and fuel room. Improvements first-class. Brick barn 20x30 on rear end of lot.
JOHN MARDER,
No. 72 West Washington-st.

SHOES.

Albany Shoes.
On or before 1 Jan. 1, 1872, for the better accommodation of our rapidly increasing
Chicago and Western Trade,
we will open a Branch Salesroom
Corner Michigan-av. and Harrison-st., up stairs.
THOS. FEAREY & SONS.
FACTORY—1, 3 and 10 Union-st., Albany, N. Y.

WATCHES.

Holiday Presents!

ELGIN WATCHES.
Full-plate Movements, adjusted to temperature, in Gold or Silver Cases, for Gents' use.
The B. W. Raymond, H. Z. Culver, and H. H. Taylor movements are especially recommended.
The LADY ELGIN, in Gold Hunting, enamelled, or engraved case, continues the most popular watch for ladies' use yet offered for sale. No more charming present could be made than one of these beautiful time pieces.
The ELGIN WATCHES, of style and price according to taste and purse, are for sale by all Chicago Jewellers.
No movements retailed by the Company.
The Elgin Illustrated Almanac for 1872 has just been received from the Aldine Press, and is in the hands of Chicago Jewellers for presentation to their customers. It will also be forwarded by mail to any address upon application to
National (Elgin) Watch Co.,
Cor. Green & Washington-sts.,
CHICAGO, ILL.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Dressed Hogs.
We are now ready to handle Dressed Hogs as usual, and can extend to Shippers every advantage furnished by any house in the city, having, for the at times years we have been in business, sold more Dressed Hogs than any house here.
Commission one and one-half per cent on car load lots.
Liberal CASH ADVANCES made when desired. Shippers can draw at sight with a railroad receipt for three-quarters value of shipments, without further notice. Personal attention given to sales and delivery. Full market prices and satisfaction guaranteed. Send for stencils and weight lists. Also, for special freight arrangements.
Provisions Bought and Sold on Margins.
Sherman Hall & Cook,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
283 MICHIGAN-AV.
References: First National Bank; Fourth National Bank.

GILBERT & BREGA,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
43 Canal-st.
Advances made on consignments of
Grain, Seeds, and Provisions.
Special attention given to buying and selling on MARGINS.

JONES & RAYMOND,
Commission Merchants & Provision Dealers,
Rear old Chamber of Commerce,
Corner La Salle and Washington-sts., Chicago.
Particular attention paid to handling
Dressed Hogs.

HOTELS.

Clifton House
NORTHWEST CORNER OF
WASHINGTON AND HALSTED-STS.
W. A. JENKINS, Proprietor.

H. F. KITTREDGE.

St. James Hotel,
COR. CLARK AND POLK-STS.
The only first-class, well-furnished Hotel on the South Side.
METROPOLITAN HOTEL, Washington, D. C.
Refurnished throughout. Passenger Elevator introduced.
J. F. CAKE, Proprietor,
(Also of Congress Hall, Cape May, N. J.)

TERRA COTTA.

TERRA COTTA.
Window and Door Caps, Belt Courses, Cornices, Brackets Chimney Tops, Vases, Hanging Baskets, &c.
CHICAGO TERRA COTTA CO.,
Factory and Office, near the corner Sixteenth and Reuben-sts.

GENERAL NOTICES.

NOTICE.
After this date all applications for assistance from the A. T. Stewart Fund, for relief of destitute widows and single women, will be made to the undersigned by letter. Applicants will give former residence (if burnt out), present residence, general circumstances, wants, and that they are not regularly receiving aid from any Relief Society, and must be endorsed by two responsible citizens who know the statements to be true.
N. S. BOUTON.
Standard Hall, Dec. 14, 1871.

NOTICE.
The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Union Insurance & Trust Company Bank of Chicago, for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, will be held at their office in Chicago, No. 37 West Madison-st., on TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872, at 10 o'clock a. m.
WM. B. HOSWELL, Secretary.

Notice.
The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership under the firm name and style of Horner & Levy, for the purpose of carrying on a general Banking and Exchange business, and are now ready to receive deposits, issue bills of exchange, and transact a general banking business, at their new place, No. 89 West Randolph-st.
HENRY HORNER,
S. A. LEVY.
Chicago, Dec. 1, 1871.

NOTICE.
There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the Mercantile Building Association at 62 Michigan-av., on Saturday, Dec. 23, 1871, at 1 o'clock p. m., to consider any business pertaining to said association.
E. BURLING, President.
WM. C. DOW, Secretary.

NOTICE.
The Phœnix Insurance Co., of Brooklyn, N. Y., R. S. Critchell, Agent, has not paid me one cent, although claiming to be the first to relieve the sufferers in the Chicago fire; and I have not or cannot settle with said Company, although my loss exceeds three times my policy. PETER CALDWELL, 264 E. Washington-st.

BOOKS.

HOLIDAYS.
A Large Assortment of New and Beautiful Books, at Lowest Prices.
American Tract Society,
467 1-2 Michigan-av., Chicago.

SCALES.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD
SCALES,
Of All Sizes.
Fairbanks, Greenleaf & Co.,
11 SOUTH CANAL-ST.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

BOOKS.
HADLEY BROTHERS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
Booksellers,
781 and 783 State-st.
GALLERY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTERS, $12.
HOOD'S POEMS, Artists' Edition; cloth, $6; morocco, $12.50.
SONGS OF THE HEART, illustrated, now; cloth, $6; morocco, $8.
FROUDE'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND, 12 vols.; cloth, $10; half calf, $20; Library Edition, half calf, $36. A most useful and ornamental gift.
ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY OF WONDERS, in handsome walnut case, 20 vols., room gilt; $40. A splendid addition to any Library.
BITTER SWEET, by Holland, illustrated; cloth, $2; morocco, $12.
THE UNIVERSE, splendidly illustrated; $12.
HOWITT'S TRANSLATION OF PLATO; 4 vols.; cloth, $12.
THE FESTIVAL OF SONG. An elegant volume. Morocco gilt, $20.
JUVENILES IN ABUNDANCE.
HADLEY BROTHERS,
781 and 783 State-st.

FURNITURE.

FURNITURE.
We have now on hand, and are constantly manufacturing, all kinds of FURNITURE and Office Desks. Also, BEDDING of every description, which we are selling at our former LOW PRICES.
CALL BEFORE PURCHASING.
H. LIEBENSTEIN & CO.,
320 MICHIGAN-AV.,
Between Harmon-court and Twelfth-st.

WEBER
FURNITURE CO.,
WAREROOMS,
243 and 245 South Clark-st.,
CORNER JACKSON ST.
A large amount of goods arriving daily.
A. A. FARWELL, Agt.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

FOR SORE THROAT,
Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, or for Tubercular Consumption, Tumors, and other forms of Scrofula,
TONIC OF HEALTH
Alone, is warranted and guaranteed by all Druggists to give satisfactory results when taken up, prior to the end of
TONIC OF HEALTH
Alone, publishes its ingredients around every bottle. 4 oz. $1, 4 oz. 50 cents. Commissioned to Druggists and Dealers.
TONIC BLOOD AND LIVER PILLS (one a dose, 25 cts per bottle; in glass bottles), warranted. Address Chicago Office AMERICAN MEDICINE CO.

E. H. SARGENT,
DISPENSING CHEMIST,
Has resumed business at the
Corner Wabash-av. and Sixteenth-st.,
With a new and complete stock of goods.

BUSINESS CARDS.

MEAD & HIGGINS,
Wholesale Grocers,
204 & 206 West Washington-st.,
Offer a full line of goods at very low prices.
Call and see us.

MALT.
HAVING COMPLETELY REBUILT MY
MALT HOUSE,
492, 494 & 496 North State-st.,
I am prepared to fill orders for Malt the same as before the fire.
CHAS. POPE.

EAGLE IRON FOUNDRY,
(Established in 1840.)
SAMUEL J. CRESWELL, Jr.,
812, 814, 816, and 818 Race-st.,
PHILADELPHIA.
Iron Fronts, Stairs, Girders, Lintels, Columns, etc. etc. Light and heavy Water Pipes.

THE ILLINOIS IRON WORKS,
Corner of Wells and Van Buren-sts.,
have reopened their business again, and are prepared to take orders for iron columns, shutters, awnings, railings, stairs, and all kinds of building work. Particular attention will be paid to the manufacturing of screw jacks, derricks, etc.
A. BOLTER, Proprietor.

DOW, MORAN & CO.,
Commission Merchants, Cheese and Flour Dealers,
70 and 72 West Lake-st.,
Branch—304 Michigan-av.

BLAISDELL & ALDRICH,
CARRIAGE MANUFACTURERS,
have resumed business at their new building, No. 44 Pacific-av.

E. Sweet, Jr. & Co.,
Civil Engineers and Contractors,
99 S. Clinton-st., Chicago.
Contractors for railroad, dock and bridge building.

CITY AND COUNTY SURVEYOR.
S. S. GREELEY,
384 Wabash-av.

GILBERT R. SMITH,
BROKER,
No. 17 Harmon-court.

LEAD AND OIL WORKS.

CHICAGO LEAD & OIL WORKS
Established 1854. Burnt and Rebuilt 1868.
MANUFACTURERS OF
Lead Pipe, Sheet Lead, Bar and Pig Lead, Pure Raw and Boiled Linseed Oil and Ground Oil Cakes, for feeding.
All our Linseed Oil is guaranteed *strictly pure and* full weight.
Office: CHICAGO SHOT TOWER CO.,
Manufacturers of Drop Shot, Buck Shot, and Ball. Orders from the trade solicited.
E. W. BLATCHFORD & CO.,
70 North Clinton-st.

PROFESSIONAL.

MEDICAL & ELECTRICAL INSTITUTE,
Before the fire at 186 Wabash-av., now at
NO. 123 CALUMET-AV., CHICAGO.
This is truly a home of modern improvements, full of comforts for the invalid, and the best medical and electrical means known in the profession used. For reference send for a circular.
JUSTIN HAYES, M. D.,
Resident Physician.

TO RENT.

CORNER STORE
FOR RENT.
Brick Block, northeast corner State-st. and Eldridge-court, 2nd. Possession January 1. Apply to
BAIRD & BRADLEY,
384 Wabash-av.

DRY GOODS.

BOWEN, HUNT & WINSLOW
offer complete assortments of Repellants, in black, green, and gold mixed; Plaids and Stripes; Dixon Shirts and Drawers; Hoods, Nubias, Comforts, Scarfs, Shawls, Blankets, Velveteens, and a full line of their celebrated American Eagle Black Alpaca.
Orders will have prompt and satisfactory attention, at lowest prices.
123, 124 AND 125 MICHIGAN-AV.
CORNER MADISON-ST.

MESSRS. COLLADAY, TROUT & CO.,
529 State-st.,
And 24 and 26 Bank-st., Philadelphia,
Have now in store, for immediate delivery,
A Full Line of Shirts and Drawers,
NUBIAS, SCARFS,
Hoods, and Buck Gloves & Mits
Of the very best Eastern Manufacturers,
To which they invite the attention of the Jobbing Trade Only.

INSURANCE.

Tried in the Fire and found Faithful.
PHŒNIX
Insurance Company,
Of Hartford, Conn.
SEVENTEEN YEARS of brilliant success and substantial prosperity, in a profession in which three-fourths of the Companies engaged prove bitter failures, indicates sagacious management, conservative practice, and legitimate underwriting.
Chicago Office, 45 South Canal-st.
E. L. IRETON, Adjuster.
HENRY H. BROWN, Agent.
Western Department, Cincinnati, Ohio.
H. M. MAGILL, General Agent.

Adjustment and Collecting OF INSURANCE CLAIMS.
At the request of many of my old customers, I will undertake the adjustment and collection of claims by our late fire. Special attention given to claims against insolvent companies.
T. L. MILLER,
45 South Desplaines-st.

INSURANCE CLAIMS.

Shufeldt & Ball,
LAW OFFICE,
23 West Madison-st.
Special attention to Bankruptcy and Insurance. Full information as to all insolvent companies and claims collected, claims and cashes CHEP policies bought. Lamar policies collected in full.

LAMAR INS. CO., OF N. Y.
Parties who have filed proofs of loss in the above Company are requested to call at Room 17, Sherman House, and have the same adjusted and approved.

PUTNAM FIRE INSURANCE CO.
Office, Room 2, No. 95 West Madison-st. Creditors of this Company are requested to call at their earliest convenience and confer with the President on the proper steps to be taken. Prompt action is necessary, as bankruptcy proceedings are now pending.

REPUBLIC INSURANCE COMPANY
Four, eight, and twelve months' adjustment certificates. Will buy one or all at highest cash prices.
D. K. TENNEY, 404 Wabash-av.

HARDWARE.

CHICAGO.
CINCINNATI. NEW YORK.
J. L. WAYNE & SON,
14 North Canal-st.,
Formerly 190 Lake-st.,
Dealers in BUILDERS', CABINET, and GENERAL HARDWARE, UPHOLSTERERS' GOODS, and UNDERTAKERS' TRIMMINGS.

CARD.
In connection with the above, Mr. Geo. E. Bliss, formerly of Tyler & Bliss and Jackson & Bliss, would be pleased to see his former customers and friends.
ATWATER & CO.,
Through the great fire of October 9. Re-established November 15, on the old ground.
No. 175 Randolph-st.,
And ready to fill promptly all orders we may be favored with for goods in our line of
Heavy Hardware, Farming Tools,
CONTRACTORS' SUPPLIES, &c.

SPECTACLES.

MONEY CANNOT BUY IT!
For Sight is Priceless!!

But the Diamond Spectacles Will Preserve it.
IF YOU VALUE YOUR EYESIGHT
USE THEM
PERFECT LENSES.
Ground from minute crystal pebbles, melted together, and derive their name "DIAMOND" on account of their HARDNESS AND BRILLIANCE. They will last many years without change, and are warranted superior to all others in use. Manufactured by
J. E. SPENCER & CO., *Opticians,*
NEW YORK.
CAUTION.—None genuine unless stamped with our trade mark.
For sale by responsible agents throughout the Union.
J. E. MAYO & CO., 60 State-st.
Jewelers and Opticians, are sole agents for Chicago, Ill. From whom they can only be obtained. No peddlers employed.

LARD.

REFINED LARD!
ALSO WINTER-STRAINED
LARD OILS,
SIGNAL,
AND MACH

The Chicago Tribune.

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PAYABLE IN ADVANCE:
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Weekly Edition, per year, by MAIL..... 2.00
Parts of a year at the same rate.
To prevent delay and mistakes, be sure and give Post Office address in full, including State and county.
Remittances may be made either by draft, express, Post Office order, or in registered letters, at our risk.

TERMS TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS:
Daily, delivered, Sunday excepted, 15 cents per week.
Daily, delivered, Sunday included, 20 cents per week.
Address THE TRIBUNE COMPANY,
No. 18 Canal-st., Chicago, Ill.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1871.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.

The House of Representatives of the State Legislature has, by a vote of 69 to 67, amended the bill regulating eminent domain by a substantial, if not direct, denial of the authority of a city to make a special assessment upon contiguous property to pay the cost of a local improvement. This subject was elaborately discussed last winter, and the doctrine, first distinctly presented by Mr. Nelson, that no man can be specially taxed for a benefit resulting from a local improvement, seems to have finally prevailed, though by a precarious majority,—several of its opponents having been absent when the vote was taken. The Constitution of the State contains four distinct provisions upon this subject, which read:

1. "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

2. "The right of trial by jury, as heretofore enjoyed, shall remain inviolate."

3. "Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use, without just compensation. Such compensation, when not made by the State, shall be ascertained by a jury, as shall be prescribed by law. The fee of land taken for railroad tracks, without the consent of the owners thereof, shall remain in such owners, subject to the use for which it is taken."

4. "The General Assembly may vest the corporate authorities of cities, towns, and villages with the power to make local improvements by special assessments, or by special taxation of contiguous property, or otherwise. For all other corporate purposes, all municipal corporations may be vested with authority to assess and collect taxes; but such taxes shall be uniform in respect to persons and property, within the jurisdiction of the body imposing the same."

The power to assess the cost of a local improvement in a city upon the contiguous property, is one which the Legislature may grant or withhold. Under the existing law that power is held by all municipal governments. The bill before the Legislature proposes to take that power away. How, then, are such improvements to be made? The constitution makes a distinction between property taken for public use, or damaged by any public improvement, and that which in a city is specially benefited by a local improvement. We conceded that, as a general proposition, where a man's land is taken from him by a corporation for the purpose of laying a railroad track, the owner is entitled to compensation for the full value of his land, and should not have that compensation reduced because of any benefits resulting to the remaining land. But let us take the case of sidewalks in the city of Chicago. No less than one hundred and twenty miles of sidewalks have been destroyed by fire. How are they to be replaced? The money to rebuild them is not in the City Treasury, and cannot be raised by general tax-levy. The rebuilding of these sidewalks is absolutely necessary to make the contiguous lots available for any purpose whatever. Shall the cost of replacing these sidewalks be borne by those who are benefited thereby, or those who are not? Without the power of making special assessments they cannot be replaced at all, except in the helter-skelter fashion, and to the taste and time of each individual owner.

Again: To the great body of the people not residing or owning property in a particular street, it is a matter of supreme indifference whether such street be paved or not, and there is never a demand for its pavement until the owners or residents thereon pray to be lifted out of the mud, and have the special benefit of such improvement. It is true that the paved street is a highway, but so is every street. If the paving of a street be a public improvement, because such street is a highway, then the paving of all the streets becomes a duty. If, however, the highway is complete and as our service of the public requires paving, then to pave a street is an exceptional act of discrimination, rather against all streets not paved; a purely local work, of special advantage and profit to the property immediately contiguous to the improvement. Why should the property, real and personal, of persons residing at Cottage Grove be taxed to pay the expenses of paving Sedgwick street in the North Division, or Catherine street in the West? There can be no pretense that the paving of such street is, in any sense, a public improvement; it is the improvement of such street in an exceptional style, at great expense, and for the purpose of giving to the property contiguous thereto advantages and benefits not enjoyed by any other street. It is essentially, in the language of the constitution, "a local improvement." The paving of a street is but the granting of the city's consent that the owners of the property thereon may adopt an extraordinary improvement, and that to equalize the cost thereof the city will pay the expense of so much of the work as does not front upon any private property; as in the case of street intersections or parks. The city has authority to prescribe regulations for building, and to fix the grades and width of sidewalks, and to regulate the materials of which they shall be constructed, and the paving of streets is essentially a local improvement of property, as much so as the erection of buildings. It is exclusively of local concern.

Under the bill, as it now stands, no part of the eight hundred miles of streets in this city can be paved unless the cost thereof is levied upon the real and personal property of the entire city. We have had some forty miles of streets already paved, at an expense of many millions of dollars, which has been paid by the contiguous property. Under Mr. Nelson's bill, the eighty miles of frontage which has been thus taxed to pay for paving these streets must be taxed for all time to come to pay for paving the other streets of the city, as well those now in existence as those laid off in the many square miles of territory hereafter to be annexed to the city.

We agree with the principle that a public improvement must be paid for by a tax uniform as to persons and property within the jurisdiction of the municipality; but where an improvement is of purely local character, one which the general interest does not demand or require, and which is adopted for the special benefit of special persons and property, it is unjust for the Legislature to refuse the power, authorized by the constitution, to municipalities to apportion the cost of that work between the general public and those specially benefited. A denial of that power will paralyze city governments. It will retard the growth and prosperity of every city in Illinois, and will be especially oppressive to Chicago at the present time, where so many local improvements must be made in consequence of the fire, which cannot be obtained in any other way than by special assessment.

We must either give the Prince of Wales credit for superhuman vitality, or else censure the English newsmakers for their sensational tendencies. After several weeks of almost constant assurances that the Prince *must* die,—and these fortified by the official signatures of three Crown physicians,—we are told that the Prince is now out of danger, so much so that his brothers and sisters have left for their several homes. It has already been charged by the anti-monarchical malcontents of England that the stories of the Prince's illness have been greatly exaggerated, for the purpose of manufacturing sympathy for the royal family, and playing upon the British heart in behalf of the institution of monarchy; but both this, and the suspicion that the doctors have been exaggerating the case, for the purpose of heightening their professional reputation, are equally absurd. The Prince has shown a first-class capacity to withstand fever, which is certainly one thing to his credit,—just as Cæsar's feebleness, when under the influence of the same disease, was cited by Cassius as an evidence telling against his greatness. At all events, Albert Edward has, by the amount of vitality displayed by him through several weeks of delirium and "exacerbation," given the lie to many of the stories which have been told concerning his personal habits, and achieved a victory which will, we presume, tell to the advantage of his popularity.

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

The bill introduced in Congress and passed by the House of Representatives, making an appropriation for the purchase of an enlarged site and the erection of new public buildings, contained a provision that the site may be removed to any one of twenty-four contiguous blocks, upon the assumption that, if the Secretary of the Treasury is confined to the present location, the owners of land there will either ask an extravagant price, or will pack a jury to make them an extravagant award of damages. If this is the imputation of the bill, it is wholly gratuitous. The government now owns one-fifth of the block on which the Post Office building stands, and the following is the card from the owners of four-fifths of the remaining property:

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Believing there is an effort being made to create the impression upon the public mind that some of the property-owners in the block encircling the old Post Office and government building are unwilling to sell their property to the government at a fair and reasonable price, we, the undersigned, representing more than four-fifths (4-5) of the whole block, hereby disclaim any intention of asking any more for our property than its market value; and, as evidence of our sincerity, we challenge the investigation of any intelligent committee, and pledge ourselves to take such a price as shall be considered fair and equitable.

There has been no person authorized by the government to make negotiations for the property; hence, we ask the public to suspend their opinion until such time as the government seeks to purchase.

BENJ. LOMBARD,
A. D. HENDRIE,
ANDREWS & BROTHER,
ROSENFELD & ROSENFELD,
N. K. HOLMES,
E. S. HAWLEY,
MELVILLE W. FULLER.

This is conclusive as to the feelings of the owners. But the law provides another protection. It provides for the condemnation of the property under State law, the value to be ascertained by a court and jury. This is perhaps the fairest and best mode of proceeding. Under it the actual value of the property can be ascertained. The government is willing to pay that value, and the owners must take that sum. There is no room for combination. Each piece of property will be valued by itself, and the owner will not be willing to decline what is tendered him. There is no opportunity for huckstering, or for one man or any number of men, holding out; the award of the Commissioner is final. We have no question that the government officers can purchase all, or nearly all, the property on that block at prices so fair and reasonable as to obviate all occasion for legal proceedings. Should any owner hold out, the law provides for a valuation of his lot, and as summary an extinguishment of any obstinacy on his part.

THE WICKEDEST MAN IN NEW YORK.

There lurks somewhere in the city of New York, this morning, fearful of lynching, a man who can truthfully boast of possessing the widest and most unenviable infamy of any man in America, if not in Christendom. That man is Barnard, the notorious Judge of the New York Supreme Court, whose record, as the protector and abettor of all manner of public vice in the very sanctuary of justice, is familiar to all intelligent citizens of this country.

A few weeks ago, Barnard made a show of joining the side of virtue, and leaving the rotten cripple of Erie and Tammany, to whom he had pandered hitherto, to receive the recoil of their own devices. He simulated an overwhelming sense of judicial duty, and, with an ostentatious display of virtue, sent Connolly to jail, lectured his grand jury on public morality, and left the community to infer that he had suddenly become a very paragon of probity. It now appears that this movement was only a feint, for the better success of the efforts which Barnard was chosen to put forth in behalf of the head villain of the Tammany band.

This was demonstrated in the court proceedings reported by telegraph in our issue of yesterday. Tweed was arrested on charges which have been a matter of public talk for months, and which are morally believed by every citizen to be true. These charges refer to the misappropriation—in fact, the stealing—of millions of dollars belonging to the public. He was arraigned upon some of them before the Court of General Sessions. The case had been prepared with great care by one of the best criminal lawyers in the country, and no move was made until all was ready. The indictment was correct, the panel was ready, and the court could not do less than issue a bench warrant for the instant of arrest. But to order the arrest of Tweed, and to get Tweed safe under lock and key, are two very different things—especially in New York. Hence, no sooner was the order given to commit the defendant without bail to the Tombs, than the Sheriff (Tweed's man) despatches a Deputy (Tweed's man also) after the faithful Barnard (Tweed's man), who seems to have been in the way conveniently near, and who, on the application of another notorious Deputy (Tweed's man), granted a writ of *habeas corpus*, which intercepted the Sheriff on his way to the Tombs with his prisoner. Then, after a mock hearing, the scoundrel of the Tammany Ring was admitted to bail in $5,000!—perhaps one-hundredth of one per cent of the amount which Tweed has helped to filch from the City Treasury! Such is justice in Barnard's court.

There are the indictments on file in the Court of General Sessions against some thirty of the Tammany rogues, all of whom will doubtless expect to make similarly advantageous arrangements with Barnard, and evade justice with like ease. But that, doubtless, depends upon the conditions of the bargain which Tweed has made with his and Fisk's Judge. It may be that the arrangement is for the acquittal and escape of Tweed and Sweeney only,—Connolly being abandoned by the Boss because he "funked" at too early a stage of the game. It is probable, however, that Tweed has an alliance, offensive and defensive, with all the most of his minor partners in his larcenies, to the end that, while sure to be the word with these, Tweed will, in return, procure from Barnard enough writs of *habeas corpus* and straw-bail facilities to let them all off with whole skins. As to Tweed, the only course apparently open for him is to jump his two-penny bail and leave, for Canada or Europe at once. If he does not do so, it will be because he knows he has all the courts and officers of the posse so "fixed" that justice cannot be obtained in New York as against him, or any one whom he chooses to shield.

So far as Barnard is concerned, this is undoubtedly true. This wretched creature and minister of corruption seems ever at hand to do the bidding of his employers. He is in all respects the counterpart of Aladdin's slave of the lamp. There seems to be but one course for those who are engaged in the praiseworthy effort to cleanse the Augean stables of the New York public administration, and the first step of that is the impeachment of Barnard, and perhaps others of the Tammany Judges. There certainly ought not to be much difficulty in mustering facts enough against Barnard to secure his conviction before the New York Senate, which body is fortunately about to assemble. The damning facts brought out against Barnard by Attorney General Barlow, last summer, are doubtless susceptible of legal proof; and others, concerning his late record in the Erie cases and those pertaining to the present crisis, can be brought to bear against him with fatal effect, if any lawyer as well qualified as Charles O'Conor, and as much in earnest as he seems to be, but takes the work in hand. One thing at a time is a good motto; but it looks as if the removal of Barnard—this poisoner of justice at its fountain-head—were one of the necessary preliminaries to the conviction of the other rascals. If Mr. O'Conor desires a monument more "enduring than brass" to bear his name down to a grateful posterity, he cannot find anywhere a better pedestal for it than a case against George G. Barnard, which shall result in that rascal's removal.

The election of Mr. Mancel Talcott to the office of Police Commissioner is one of the best results of the recent popular demand for reform. Perhaps no other person in the West Division is so well qualified in all respects for the peculiar duties of that office. Prompt, vigilant, and untiring, he will infuse new vigor into the Police and Fire Departments. His influence will be felt directly upon the whole board, and the public may hope that both the police and firemen will be reorganized by the dismissal of every incompetent officer, and the appointment of new men selected for their fitness and their intelligence, and not because of their nationality or their services as politicians or wardstrikers.

The public will regret, however, the necessity which compels Mr. Talcott to resign his place as a member of the County Board. The charter requires that the Police Commissioners shall devote their whole time to the duties of their offices. The loss of such a man as Mr. Talcott in the County Board is a serious one. It is to be regretted that he cannot hold both offices; but, as this is impossible, the city of Chicago will rejoice that he has consented to accept the arduous duty of reforming the Police and Fire Departments, both of which need it very badly.

In the debate in the Senate, on Thursday last, Senator Sherman, of Ohio, so far forgot what was due to the proprieties of his position as to object to Senator Trumbull's speaking twice on a pending resolution. Mr. Trumbull replied with freezing dignity that this was the first time, in the course of seventeen years' service in the Senate, that an attempt had been made to choke debate.

The occasion for this unseemly action on the part of the Senator from Ohio was, that Mr. Trumbull desired to have an investigation into certain corrupt practices connected with the New York Custom House, which Sherman and Conkling opposed because it might hurt the party. "It is of little credit to the Republican party," said Conkling, "or to any member of it, however humble or exalted, to profess or to practice a willingness to investigate the affairs and the administration of that party." Senator Sherman did not go quite so far in words as this, but, by attempting to stop discussion, he went much farther.

The American people, however party-wise they may be, are not prepared to endorse either the sentiment uttered by Conkling, or the tactics resorted to by Sherman. They believe that it is highly creditable to a party, or any member of a party, to profess and practice a willingness to investigate the affairs and administration of that party; and are ever willing and ready to do so in the presence of guilt. It appears that this unwelcome truth finally entered the souls of the caucus, for, after twice voting down Mr. Trumbull's resolution, they afterward adopted it, and appointed a committee opposed to executing it. This is very thin and transparent. The fellow who was in favor of the Maine law, but against its enforcement, was the natural prototype of such a compromise. For it is to be observed that not one Senator who advocated the resolution during the three days' debate has a place on it. Its functions are committed altogether to those who opposed the creation of any such committee.

The Senate Committee of Investigation and Retrenchment has for one of its members Mr. Harlan, of Iowa. One of the earliest duties of the committee will doubtless be to discover how the four hundred Cherokee Indians got their names on the pension rolls while Mr. Harlan was Secretary of the Interior. The present Secretary can tell how the names were got off the rolls, and Mr. Harlan will be a valuable witness to show how they were put on.

Senator Trumbull's Reform Resolution.

The following is the full text of Senator Trumbull's resolution, which the Senate, on Thursday, refused to pass:

Resolved, That, the House of Representatives concurring, a joint select Committee on Retrenchment, consisting of four members of the Senate and seven members of the House, be appointed by the presiding officers of the two houses, and that the said committee be instructed to inquire into the expenditures in all the branches of the service of the United States, and to report whether any and what offices ought to be abolished, whether any and what salaries or allowances ought to be reduced, what are the methods of securing accountability in public officers or agents in the care and disbursement of public moneys, whether moneys have been paid out illegally, whether any officers or agents, or other persons, have been, or are, employed in the service without authority or law, or unnecessarily, and generally how, and to what extent, the expenses of the service of the country may and ought to be curtailed, and also to consider the expediency of so amending the laws relative to which the appointments to the public service are now made as to prevent the selection of incompetent officers after due examination and the specified terms, unless dismissed for other charges preferred and sustained before tribunals designated for that purpose, and for reporting the public service from being used as an instrument of political or party patronage, that said committee be authorized, in executing the foregoing, to send for persons and papers, and to report by bill or otherwise, and that said committee may appoint a clerk for six months and no longer.

Corruption in the Common Council.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: The people of Chicago will be glad to see an investigation ordered by the Common Council of this city into the case of unlawful demands of money as a condition of the granting of office. Doubtless the theory of the Aldermen who are guilty is, that, as they have spent considerable money to secure their election, it is only fair that applicants for positions should pay within their power to bestow shall reimburse them. If this whole scheme and system of plunder can be exposed, it may result in determining the best manner from seeking the position of Alderman. They will think twice before spending several hundred dollars for an election to an office which pays no salary, if they do not see their way clear to get their money back. If those whelps can be ferreted out of the way, good luck will be elected by the people, without effort or expense on the part of the honest candidates elected. Let the names be exposed. Let the people know which Aldermen are guilty. The imputation now hangs over the entire body, and the entire body of Common will be regarded as countenancing unlawful acts unless it is investigated. The charges made and published are grave ones. They demanding a fee as a condition of receiving an appointment is no new thing. It is so well established a system of doing things by certain parties in this city, that it is scarcely disguised, and the evidence can be had by asking. Yours, etc.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14. J. A. O.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: I can help you out in regard to the rascality of some of the Aldermen. I was trying, last winter, to get a scheme through the Council that interested the public as much as myself. Alderman No. 1 told me he would put it through for me, and kept me waiting several weeks. He finally told me to go to Alderman No. 2. I went to him, and he told me, as Alderman No. 1 was Chairman of the committee, he must see that. He took me to one side and posted me, saying that Alderman No. 1 was a man that could be approached." I saw that fuey were a set of sharks, and had nothing more to do with them. I can give you the names if you wish them, but would not want them used save in the investigation you call for. Yours truly, H. A. R.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.

Railroads.

The Chicago & Superior Railroad Company, whose line extends from Menominee, Ill., through Rockford, Madison, Portage, and Grand Rapids, to its intersection with the Wisconsin Central Railroad, has now been fully organized, with the following Directors: Messrs. James Campbell, H. T. Moore, Winslow Bullen, O. D. Peck, and David Atwood, of Wisconsin; and Robert P. Lane, George Young, and Ralph Emerson, of Illinois.

—The latest project started is to construct a road from the mouth of the St. Joseph River, in Berrien County, Mich., through Dowagiac, Constantine, Sturgis, Orland, and so on, to connect with an Eastern road to the seaboard.

—Out of a subscription of $65,000 to the Northern Central Michigan Railroad, now past due, less than $10,000 has been paid. Mr. Brockway, the contractor, gives notice that the cash must be speedily forthcoming.

—Chester Warner, of Chicago, has contracted to lay the iron, build depots, engine houses, and water tanks, furnish rolling stock—in fact, to put the Grand Rapids & Newaygo Railroad in operation to the latter place by June 1, 1873. Iron for the road is arriving at Grand Rapids.

—The preliminary surveys of the Toledo, Ann Arbor & Northern Railroad are completed to the Ohio State line. In a few days the final line will have been settled upon from Ann Arbor to Toledo, and shortly after that the estimates will be made, when the work will be ready to award to contractors. Toledo promises to meet it at the State line.

—Two new railroads have just been organized at East Saginaw. The first is the Cass River Railroad, and will run from East Saginaw to Vassar, and there on the Cadillac Branch, a distance of thirty-five miles, where there will be a temporary pause, but only temporary, as it is the intention to extend the road to some point beyond Caro not yet made public. The capital stock is fixed at $500,000, and following are the directors: Eber B. Ward, Samuel Farwell, Jesse Hoyt, Henry C. Potter, Wm. L. Webber, Wm. A. Hearn, Thomas Edsall. The other road is called the Flint River Railroad, and it runs from Flint to Otter Lake, situated near the corner of Lapeer and Tuscola Counties.

—The McLean County Board of Supervisors has finally concluded to pay the interest on the county bonds, issued to the Lafayette, Bloomington & Mississippi Railroad, the payment of which was refused last spring. The company brought suit and the county has the privilege of paying costs.

THE NORTH DIVISION.

Meeting of Leading Owners of Property on That Side of the River.

An Almost Unanimous Expression of Intention to Rebuild.

The Breweries Not Likely to be Again Located on the Lake Shore.

Draft of a Proposed Fire Ordinance for North Chicago.

A meeting of the property-owners of the North Division was held on Saturday evening, in the Metropolis Hotel, corner of Michigan avenue and Fourteenth street. The attendance was unusually large and enthusiastic, the unanimous expression being in favor of the immediate restoration of the North Side. The meeting organized by the election of the Hon. E. C. Larned as President, and C. H. Antes Secretary.

The Chair called upon all the gentlemen present for an expression of their intentions as to rebuilding.

Messrs. Adams, Fardee, Page, Dunlap, and Perry H. Smith were all in favor of immediately rebuilding their residences and business blocks as soon as practicable.

Mr. Culver said he was as enthusiastic as any of the North Siders were.

Mr. Nixon intended building as soon as he saw the way open.

Dr. Dyer could'nt hear.

Mr. G. Peabody said he had no doubt Lincoln Park would be taken care of and the drive would come, but he had some doubt about the North Side not being injured by the want of settlement of the fire limits. Though he would like to see the fire limits co-extensive with the city limits, still, half a loaf was better than no bread, and if the fire limits were Wells street on the West and North Avenue on the North, and the matter were definitely agreed upon, he would set to work to rebuild.

Dr. Dyer said the fire ordinances were of no especial value, because they were never enforced. He had no confidence in any fire limits which were not co-extensive with the city, and then they would never be enforced. (Laughter.)

Mr. R. H. Kerfoot said the North Side was now a much nearer the business portion of the city, as regards a residence neighborhood. He was in favor of an immovable law for the fire-limits. A man ought to know that he would be secure against a trap or a tinder-box next door, and a structure that was insecure was the ruin of his own property. For the name and reputation of the region, some speedy and emphatic action was necessary. He agreed with Mr. Peabody's views as regards the fire-limits. It was the duty of the meeting, individually and collectively, to have some prompt measures taken to restore the North Side to its previous beauty and grandeur.

Mr. E. E. Rogers had already broken ground on North Clark street, and intended to continue building through the winter.

Mr. Hall, Conway said he had that he had money enough to put up twenty buildings on the North Side. He intended, anyway, to re-erect a better building than he had on the North Side before the fire.

Mr. John M. Jewett complained of South Side street accommodations, and eulogized the accessibility and convenience of the North Side. He would rather leave the city than change his residence to the South Side. He would build for living, and live there as soon as possible, if the surroundings were such as to warrant his doing so. He was of Dr. Dyer's opinion of the fire limits. Though in favor of extending them further into the streets named, those would suit him very well.

Mr. George Ramsey proposed to go back to the North Side.

Mr. Sprague proposed to rebuild next spring.

Mr. Frank Taylor would do the same thing.

Mr. W. Bunten would rebuild as soon as possible. He would rather live on the North Side than on any other but the North Side. He urged the establishment of fire limits.

Messrs. Wadsworth and Houghtaling, expressed similar views especially as regards the immediate passage of a fire ordinance.

Mr. Goudy said if the establishment of the fire limits excluded the breweries, it was a most important matter. There were a number of them themselves, they resulted in depreciating property. If the business were not allowed to endanger fine buildings, the breweries should not be permitted to monopolize the lake shore. He would exclude them from the North Side and the lake shore. He understood that Mr. Lill was present on behalf of the breweries.

Mr. Scherben said he had nothing to do with brewers, except drink beer, which it seemed his friend did. He had no interest in breweries, but had an interest in malt-houses. Still, he believed it would be desirable if there were neither breweries nor malt-houses on the North Side. [Applause.] But what were they to do? They were all stalling their troubles, and nothing was to be done. Everybody was counting on his fellow citizens to do something, whether moneys have been paid out illegally, whether any officers or agents, or other persons, have been, or are, employed in the service without authority or law, or unnecessarily, and generally how, and to what extent, the expenses of the service of the country may and ought to be curtailed, and also to consider the expediency of so amending the laws relative to which the appointments to the public service are now made as to prevent the selection of incompetent officers after due examination and the specified terms, unless dismissed for other charges preferred and sustained before tribunals designated for that purpose, and for reporting the public service from being used as an instrument of political or party patronage, that said committee be authorized, in executing the foregoing, to send for persons and papers, and to report by bill or otherwise, and that said committee may appoint a clerk for six months and no longer.

Mr. Kerfoot said building shanties in that quarter would result in population to correspond, and the nightly arrest of those people would end merely in a repetition of the story already told in the burning of a shanty.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it seems to this meeting that the fire limits upon the North Side should embrace the section included within the following lines, to wit: Beginning at the North Pier, and running thence west to a point 100 feet north of Chicago avenue; thence west parallel with said avenue to a point 100 feet west of Wells street; thence south parallel with said street to a point 100 feet west of its intersection with North Clark street; thence southeasterly 100 feet west of and parallel with Clark street to Fullerton avenue; thence east on Fullerton avenue to the lake; thence south on the lake to the centre of the river; thence down the centre of the river to place of beginning.

Mr. R. H. Kerfoot moved the appointment of a committee of seven, of which the Chairman of the meeting should be Chairman, to investigate the matter more fully.

The motion prevailed.

The Chair appointed as such committee Perry H. Smith, R. H. Kerfoot, Mr. Prindiville, George L. Dunlap, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Erving, and Mr. Eli Bates.

On motion, the committee was authorized to sign the names of all present to the petition to the Council.

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

The Western News Company.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Your "Many Readers" correspondent or correspondents, writing from Rockford, Ill., under date of Dec. 16, does us (unintentionally, I have no doubt) an injustice. Our business as wholesale dealers is to supply the retail trade with such periodicals as they order. Before your correspondent, or any other customer of a retail dealer supplied by us, can justly complain to you of errors or omissions on our part, it seems to me it would be proper for him to show that we have not filled the orders to our customers as given by them. As this very necessary piece of information is entirely omitted, I think it will be in order for me to ask that when the writer of the communication referred to is unable to get THE TRIBUNE from his news-dealer, he will take the trouble, before "rushing into print," to satisfy himself that the fault is ours. Very respectfully,

E. K. WALSH,
Manager of The Western News Company, No. 99 West Randolph street, Dec. 16, 1871.

THE WORK OF RELIEF.

Report of the Sanitary Committee—Statement of the Committee on Shelter—The Ladies' Employment Bureau—The Charges Against General Mann—Relief from Abroad—Relief Swindlers—Chicago After the Fire.

REPORT FROM THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

The whole number of patients treated by the medical officers of the society is 2,336, an increase of 287 over that of last week; 1,430 visits have been made. There were 9 deaths. Small-pox has increased to a very slight extent. Vaccination and re-vaccination have been urged upon all our citizens.

The reports from the Medical Superintendents condensed, are as follows:

District No. 1, Dr. Reid, reports as the prevailing diseases those affecting the respiratory organs. The general health of this portion of the city is remarkably good. Contagious diseases are on the wane. Two cases only of small-pox reported for the week, one of which was in a previously infected house. There are two cases of scarlatina in the Haunted Street barracks—the only cases that have occurred there.

District No. 2, Dr. Wagner, reports an increase in diseases of the respiratory organs, and a marked decrease in malarial fevers. The reports of the visiting physicians agree in stating that all the patients were supplied with the necessary provisions, clothing, bedding, coal, etc., and no complaints were made with reference to these necessaries.

District No. 3, Dr. Bogue, reports that no new cases of scarlet fever had appeared in the Harrison street barracks for more than a week.

District No. 4, Dr. Powell, and Dr. Freer, District No. 5, report the diseases in their districts to be of a very miscellaneous character.

SHELTER.

The Shelter Committee of the Relief and Aid Society report the erection of 40 houses last week, and the furnishing to applicants of 93 stoves, 1,466 mattresses, 1,073 bedsteads, 2,091 chairs, and 1,166 tables. The total number of houses built to date is 1,071.

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

The ladies of the Relief and Aid Association have opened an employment bureau for that class of sewing women who have families or are otherwise destitute from going out to work. Any such persons applying for work, being endorsed by some lady of the association, or bringing other good recommendation, will be supplied at the headquarters of the association, No. 77 Fourteenth street. Sewing is urgently solicited from families, and all persons appreciate the value of his own property. For the name and reputation of the region, some speedy and emphatic action was necessary. He agreed with Mr. Peabody's views as regards the fire-limits. It was the duty of the meeting, individually and collectively, to have some prompt measures taken to restore the North Side to its previous beauty and grandeur.

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Mr. Hall, Conway said he had that he had money enough to put up twenty buildings on the North Side. He intended, anyway, to re-erect a better building than he had on the North Side before the fire.

Mr. John M. Jewett complained of South Side street accommodations, and eulogized the accessibility and convenience of the North Side. He would rather leave the city than change his residence to the South Side. He would build for living, and live there as soon as possible, if the surroundings were such as to warrant his doing so. He was of Dr. Dyer's opinion of the fire limits. Though in favor of extending them further into the streets named, those would suit him very well.

Mr. George Ramsey proposed to go back to the North Side.

Mr. Sprague proposed to rebuild next spring.

Mr. Frank Taylor would do the same thing.

Mr. W. Bunten would rebuild as soon as possible. He would rather live on the North Side than on any other but the North Side. He urged the establishment of fire limits.

Messrs. Wadsworth and Houghtaling, expressed similar views especially as regards the immediate passage of a fire ordinance.

Mr. Goudy said if the establishment of the fire limits excluded the breweries, it was a most important matter. There were a number of them themselves, they resulted in depreciating property. If the business were not allowed to endanger fine buildings, the breweries should not be permitted to monopolize the lake shore. He would exclude them from the North Side and the lake shore. He understood that Mr. Lill was present on behalf of the breweries.

Mr. Scherben said he had nothing to do with brewers, except drink beer, which it seemed his friend did. He had no interest in breweries, but had an interest in malt-houses. Still, he believed it would be desirable if there were neither breweries nor malt-houses on the North Side. [Applause.] But what were they to do? They were all stalling their troubles, and nothing was to be done. Everybody was counting on his fellow citizens to do something, whether moneys have been paid out illegally, whether any officers or agents, or other persons, have been, or are, employed in the service without authority or law, or unnecessarily, and generally how, and to what extent, the expenses of the service of the country may and ought to be curtailed, and also to consider the expediency of so amending the laws relative to which the appointments to the public service are now made as to prevent the selection of incompetent officers after due examination and the specified terms, unless dismissed for other charges preferred and sustained before tribunals designated for that purpose, and for reporting the public service from being used as an instrument of political or party patronage, that said committee be authorized, in executing the foregoing, to send for persons and papers, and to report by bill or otherwise, and that said committee may appoint a clerk for six months and no longer.

Mr. Kerfoot said building shanties in that quarter would result in population to correspond, and the nightly arrest of those people would end merely in a repetition of the story already told in the burning of a shanty.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it seems to this meeting that the fire limits upon the North Side should embrace the section included within the following lines, to wit: Beginning at the North Pier, and running thence west to a point 100 feet north of Chicago avenue; thence west parallel with said avenue to a point 100 feet west of Wells street; thence south parallel with said street to a point 100 feet west of its intersection with North Clark street; thence southeasterly 100 feet west of and parallel with Clark street to Fullerton avenue; thence east on Fullerton avenue to the lake; thence south on the lake to the centre of the river; thence down the centre of the river to place of beginning.

Mr. R. H. Kerfoot moved the appointment of a committee of seven, of which the Chairman of the meeting should be Chairman, to investigate the matter more fully.

The motion prevailed.

The Chair appointed as such committee Perry H. Smith, R. H. Kerfoot, Mr. Prindiville, George L. Dunlap, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Erving, and Mr. Eli Bates.

On motion, the committee was authorized to sign the names of all present to the petition to the Council.

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

The Western News Company.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Your "Many Readers" correspondent or correspondents, writing from Rockford, Ill., under date of Dec. 16, does us (unintentionally, I have no doubt) an injustice. Our business as wholesale dealers is to supply the retail trade

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Chas. Gossage & Co.
(Successors to Hess & Gossage),

are receiving daily choice selections of fancy and useful articles for Holiday Presents, comprising Seal and Astrachan Sets, Sacques, Muffs, and Boas, elegant Shawls in great variety, an unusually attractive stock of Rich Dress Goods, Black Silks of superior qualities, Cloaking and Trimming Velvets, Point Lace Sets and Collars, Embroideries, Ladies' Ties, Bows, Sashes, and Scarfs, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Initial Hemmed Hdkfs., in handsome boxes of half dozens, Kid, Cloth and Buckskin Gloves, Gauntlets, and Mitts, Nubias, and other Knit Goods, Hosiery and Underwear of the best English manufactures, and Housekeeping Articles in great variety.

"Prices Always the Lowest."

235 & 237
WEST MADISON-ST.

LACES, ETC.

Valuable Laces
AND
Handkerchiefs.

FIELD, LEITER & CO.

Call attention to their Point and Point Applique Collars, Barbes, Handkerchiefs, and Black Thread Lace Barbes, at great reductions; also Point Applique and Valenciennes Sets, made up, and Valenciennes Handkerchiefs. A large line of Ladies' and Gents' H. S. and initial L. C. Handkerchiefs; also half dozens in Fancy Boxes, 83 to 88, and a job lot of very beautiful Embroidered L. C. Handkerchiefs, marked down to nearly half price, all of which are very desirable for Holiday Presents.

State & Twentieth-sts.

GROCERIES.

HARMON, MESSER & CO.,
Wholesale Grocers,
52 RIVER-ST.,
Corner South Water,
(OLD STAND).

We take pleasure in informing our friends and customers that we are permanently located as above, where we are offering to the trade a full and well-assorted stock at lowest prices.

WORSTED GOODS.

BURKITT & SUTTON
253 West Madison-st.,
Corner Sangamon.

Have now a full line of HOSIERY in Men's, Women's, and Children's; NUBIAS, in white and colors; ZEPHYR WORSTEDS; YARN, in blue, mixed and colors; Hand-knit Scarfs, Hoods, Shawls, Loggins, Mittens, &c. Slippers, Ottomans, Camp Chairs, Towel Racks, and other goods suitable for

Christmas Presents.

We remain open until 8 p. m. until after the Holidays.

SKATES.

SKATES.

A good assortment of CHEAP SKATES for sale at WHOLESALE ONLY by WM. BLAIR & CO., 30 and 32 South Canal-st.

DISSOLUTION NOTICES.

DISSOLUTION.

The copartnership heretofore existing under the firm name of Morris & Ingraham is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All debts and liabilities will be settled by N. J. Morris & Co., corner Madison-st. and Union Jagger.

N. J. MORRIS.
Nov. 10, 1871. J. M. INGRAHAM.

DISSOLUTION.

The copartnership heretofore existing between T. A. Holland and E. M. Turner, under the name and style of T. A. Holland & Co., Commercial Printers and Publishers, is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

T. A. HOLLAND.
E. M. TURNER.

The undersigned, as successors to the above firm, will continue the business of Book and Job Printing in all its branches, at the old stand, and will settle all accounts and notes of the late firm of T. A. Holland & Co.

HORACE G. BOUGHTON & CO.
E. M. TURNER.
BOUGHTON & TURNER.

Chicago, Dec. 15, 1871.

DISSOLUTION.

The copartnership heretofore existing between Wm. F. Kellogg and Charles Correll, as wholesale grocers, under the name and style of Kellogg & Correll, is hereby dissolved by mutual consent. Either party is authorized to sign in liquidation.

WM. F. KELLOGG.
CHARLES CORRELL.

Chicago, Dec. 12, 1871.

DISSOLUTION.

The copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm name of Colgate & Co., is this day dissolved by mutual consent. John Colgate will settle the business of the late firm.

JOHN COLGATE.
ISAAC N. VAN NESS.

Chicago, Dec. 14, 1871.

CORNS.

ESTABLISHED 1865.

25c. Corns. 25c.

Dr. STEPHENS, 121 West Washington-st, 8 to 9 p. m.; 60 Twenty-second-st., 4 to 9 p. m. STEPHENS' All Right Salve for Corns, 25 cents per box. Druggists have it.

INSURANCE.

OUT OF THE FIRE!

THE UNDERWRITERS' AGENCY

OF NEW YORK,

Having adjusted all claims for loss under their policies resulting from the recent great conflagration, and having paid out over

ONE MILLION DOLLARS

Present to the insuring public solid indemnity, guaranteed by

CASH ASSETS, $3,000,000!

The following is a list of those who have received the substantial benefits of the Underwriters' Policy for loss by the late fire:

Field, Leiter & Co.,	$39,958.29	E. H. Haddock,	$4,000.
Pacific Hotel Co.,	25,000.	Webster Bros.,	4,711.5
Isaac H.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

Plow and Plowing—Trench-Plowing of Stubble-Land—The Science of Plowing Not Taught in the Classics—Form of the Plow—Riding Plows—How to Keep Your Plow from Rusting.

From Our Agricultural Correspondent.

CHAMPAION, Ill., Dec. 16.

The plow has been a subject of great anxiety to the farmer for the past two or three hundred years. For thousands of years before that time it called forth no thought—was available as regards a better or more easy working of the soil. To simply stir a soil—to tickle its surface, that it may laugh with a harvest, though that great was only required to meet the most simple demands—this was the ruling and only idea. We may laugh at the simplicity of those old-time cultivators; but, if we examine the conditions that were then and there presented for cropping, we might cease to wonder.

On the rich lands along the streams, where irrigation was possible, or where the winter and spring rains insured a harvest, the simple stirring of the soil was only required. But now that hill-sides and mountain-slopes, stony ridges, arenaceous plains, steppes of treeless clay, reclaimed swamps, and river-bluffs must submit to the plow, these new elements need and require another form of the implement, or for that matter, a dozen forms of the plow. At the South, where soil labor must have a care for the implements that it employs, and may have a voice in the selection, there is when Intelligence shall hold the plow, that plow will be formed to meet the new demand.

When the tall grasses acted the part of the forest in retarding evaporation; when the roots well held the moisture; when May and June were blessed with abundant showers; when the dews made the grasses and plants wet as with a summer rain—there was no need of deep tillage. To stir the surface in order to put in the seed, was all that nature demanded in order to return a bounteous harvest. Now that all these things are changed, when spring is without its weeping; when the sun licks up the moisture from the parched earth; when the unsheltered surface no longer holds the plant-food which is presented to it by the atmosphere—then it is that we ask genius to give to implements that shall aid in restoring the soil to its normal mechanical condition, that shall put it into more ready reservoirs of plant-food. In order to give us back the harvests which commerce looks into the rice-field, or when she would have cotton planted on the hill-side, we must have more and better implements must be supplied. Them, and not till then, will the iron prod of the old-time plow be sent from the cultivated field, and broke taken from the forms of the present ox. There must be new demands before the need can be supplied; we must be surprised of the want before genius can be aroused to give us her bid. It is the old adage, that finds the world of demand in the world of supply.

When commerce was prepared to make deep cuttings of the forests of the West, one of the pioneers of the prairies, a decade came for a plow better adapted to the peculiar soil of the drift period, than the rich heritage of the Western world. The wooden mould-board, the old clay plow, the cast plough that the genius of Bell had given to the Atlantic slope, all these could do no more than they were adapted to the soil that lay only for sending harvests. But we did not long prepare for the coming, and the polished mould-board back the sun as it upturned the furrow.

Some improvement in the implements with which to cultivate the soil has succeeded such an effect, or so much increased the value of land, as the steel plow effected in the great prairies. To keep pace with the ability to sow and plant large crops, the reaper, the mower, the two-horse cultivator, the power-thresher, and the grain-shelter are necessities that followed in due time. Each of these is the pioneer, who cultivated his few acres with the strap or wooden mould-board corn, can have from a half to fifty times as much between them. And yet the amount per acre of the crop has not been increased. This is due to the changed condition of the soil as a result of culture. If we were thrown back to the use of the old implements, commerce might look in vain for a bushel of grain, and the propeller would be used at the wharf.

Ancient history informs us that Egypt, on one occasion, supplied a few Nomads with provisions, and that, too, when nothing but sand—hence the iron prod simple to stir the surface of her irrigated fields. If there had been no demand for grain beyond the home-demand of our primitive country, we should not, at this time, witness the display of implements for tilling we still insist is more perfected in our view. We have we reached the maximum of power, for the competition that this progress has brought compels us to further improvement. The world will hold our places in the markets of the world. The vast countries around the Baltic, the Black, and the Caspian Seas, are being under the hand of culture, and each new plow is turning those great pastural plains to fields of wheat, of oats, and of barley. Even the rich soils of Asia are beginning to feel the pulsations of commerce; and the steel plow, the gift that genius gave the prairies, is to be a power for their upbuilding. Then, again, the Great American Desert is demanding the plow, as the waters of the snowy range are led out from the old channels for the purpose of irrigation. With all these new conditions that the world's progress has presented for our consideration, the subject of plows and of plowing has not had full attention. First we will take a look at

PLOWING.

"Day dees, while slumbards sleep," has been impressed on the public mind, in season and out of season. If all our souls were alike; if we were blessed with the same geological and climatic condition,—this formula, deep plowing, would be either right or wrong, that is, if the conditions required the stirring of the soil on the farm, the same portion would be correct on all other lands. But such is not the case; for soils are diversified endless variety as regards their geological and mechanical conditions. Hence there also has its effects, and that plays an important part in this regard. We find that in the rolling or meadow land, the plan now becoming popular—that is, to trench-plow, having the bottom of the furrow on a line with the surface in depth—is well adapted to nearly if not all of our requirements. This is doubtless due in a great measure, to the fact that the soil has settled to that or a greater depth; for, after all the turf has been fully reduced by two or three years' cropping, the condition, before the first plowing, is more or less that of the trench-plow. Once after crops by shallow than by deep plowing. And this result may follow even when the soil is composed of the same elements. The great difference resulting from the condition of the soil, more especially that of its texture, in a tilled or free condition, will not fail to teach the need of deep or shallow plowing. That is only found in the surface, is buried beyond reach, and soon becomes fixed, and, of course, neutral so far as plant-growth is concerned, and the plant must wait until the fixed potash, that is brought up from below, can have time to be assimilated for plant-growth by the action of the peculiar soil of the drift period, and this rich heritage of the Western world. The wooden mould-board, the old clay plow, the cast plough that the genius of Bell had given to the Atlantic slope, all these could do no more than they were adapted to the soil that lay only for sending harvests. But we did not long prepare for the coming, and the polished mould-board back the sun as it upturned the furrow.

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while Alexander, Cæsar, and sundry other persons, drew war's huge plowshare through the land." I am, therefore, inclined to believe that the subject of plowing all varieties of soil, with a view to the largest possible crops, is a modern one, and not so well understood that it may not bear a further investigation.

FORM OF THE PLOW.

Some of our plow-makers present us a list of over forty patterns of the plow. This is not remarkable, for one nurseryman presents us a list of more than a thousand varieties of the apple, and yet, when we go to the market, we find only half a dozen varieties of the fruit on sale; that is, the thousand varieties have come to the test of culture, and 994 of them have failed to reach the end of the row—that is, to put their fruits on the market. So, of this display of patterns: we often find their rusted forms in the corners of the fences. If farmers understood the true science of tillage they would need less than half a dozen of these forms. After the depth of the furrow is decided, we wish to comminute the soil, and to cover up the surface rubbish, such as stubble, weeds, leaves, or other litter,—not that these add greatly to the stock of plant food, but they assist in changing the mechanical condition of the soil, and in giving to it a darker color, which increases its power for absorbing heat and the plant food that comes from the atmosphere. This is what we want in the plow for stubble-land, or what is called an old-land plow. This plow is not a matter of fancy, but one of fact, and, the better that it performs the work, the nearer is it to a perfect plow, for the purpose. Some years since John Deere made a plow for this purpose, on what he claimed to be the true mathematical form of the mold-board, and marketed it in his list of plows P. P., to designate it from others. I have compared this plow with many others during the last three years, and see no reason for a change. The improvements have been made in the mode of construction and material.

The next plow in our list of needs is the sward-plow. This must be so long of share and mold-board that the furrow shall be shallow, and the turf a single ribbon from one end of the field to the other.

We next need a plow to follow in this furrow, turning a furrow from three to four inches deep, throwing it out over the furrow-slice of turf. The form of this plow will depend somewhat on the soil,—its object being to throw the furrow-slice clear from the furrow, so that the single ribbon of turf may fall into the vacant space, and thus be fully covered by the succeeding furrow.

There are three plows of prime necessity—the old-land plow, the sward-plow, and the trench-plow. Of those of secondary value are the Mapes' Sub-soil Lifter, and those for after-culture.

SULKY OR RIDING PLOW

is simply the mounting of one of these plows on wheels, with a seat for the driver. One of our neighbors has used one of Skinner's Sulky Plows and the past five years. It has generally been supposed that the only value of those plows was for the use of young boys, cripples, invalids, and old men,—certainly a large and numerous class of persons sufficiently numerous to claim some attention. But it is now discovered that they have some other merits. Near the village

NEW YORK.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

THE FISK MANSFIELD CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Copies of Fisk's letters to Josephine Mansfield implicating him in criminal complicities, and expressing such corrupt and villainous practices as would send him to prison in any country Christendom but Barnard's, have been taken, and are likely to be published even if her suit against Fisk has been compromised, as reported. Some of the correspondence shows that Fisk introduced Mansfield to his family, and confided to her keeping private letters from his wife, which are likely to lead to frightful exposures. Other letters contain remarkable evidence of Fisk's regard for Josephine, whom he affectionately addresses as "Mesadom Little Cur," "Lumpsum," supposed to be the Erie Railway abbreviation of "Lump of sugar;" "Dumplins," and "Little girl with the black-and-tan dog." The contents of these letters, alluding as they do to visits to Mansfield of distinguished railway builders, the President of Public Works, President of the Erie Railway, and Boston bankers of repute, promise some scandalous developments than anything yet revealed.

TWEED'S ARREST.

There was intense excitement in the Court House this afternoon during Tweed's arraignment, and the crowd was almost suffocating. As soon as the decision of Judge Bedford was given, a general rush was made toward the doors of the Court House. Judge Bedford rapped his gavel on the desk, the chief of Deputy Marshals shouted, "lock the doors," and to the immense disgust of the crowd anxious to catch a glimpse of Tweed as he was hustled out, the order was immediately obeyed. After a few minutes Sheriff Brennan appeared, looking very serious. He evidently felt that he had a very awkward duty for a Tammany adherent to perform. He was soon followed by the Deputy Sheriffs, and there was a loud buzz as the prisoner rose to his feet and looked around at the crowd in court. Young Tweed looked more concerned than his father, and walked with him across the corridor to the District Attorney's office. The Deputy Sheriffs walked at both sides, and as soon as the court door were thrown open the throng surged out to get a look at the prisoner. The Sheriff followed Tweed's party into the District Attorney's office and remained closeted with Tweed while a messenger was despatched for a squad of City Hall police to clear the corridor. The police arrived after a short time and none but reporters were allowed to remain outside the District Attorney's office. When the police had cleared the passage the Sheriff went out and crossed over to his own office in the City Hall. It is understood that he sent a Deputy Sheriff to hunt up some Judge of the Supreme Court. As that court does no business now except to uphold injunctions and grant some one to hear an appeal for a writ of *habeas corpus*. Judge Barnard was found, as it is pretended, by accident, and Tweed was taken to the Supreme Court Room, in the New Court House, followed by a large crowd. Tweed, accompanied by his counsel, was brought into the Supreme Court in custody of the Sheriff, having been intercepted on his way to the City Hall with a *habeas corpus*, issued by Judge Barnard. John Graham and Charles O'Conor made arguments, but it was clear that Judge Barnard's mind was made up, and that he had been approached by Tweed unexceptionably, and had given his decision without taking counsel upon the recommendation.

SEIZURES OF THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The Executive Committee of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, at its meeting in this city, to-day, resolved to contest the actual seizure of the Union Pacific Railroad.

THE FISK-MANSFIELD CASE.

It is stated that the postponement of the libel suit of Miss Mansfield against Fisk, which was granted to-day at the Yorkville Court for three weeks, on account of the illness of Miss Mansfield, is probably the last of the case.

THE TWEED CASE.

Judge Learned, of the Supreme Court, at Albany, in an opinion rendered yesterday, decides to reduce the bail of ex-Comptroller Connolly to $500,000. Connolly's friends expect to be able to raise this amount to-night.

CONNOLLY SICK.

Connolly is sick and confined to his bed at Lutheran Sisters' Hospital. He suffers from disease of the kidneys, which his friends say he has been afflicted with for several years past, which has grown to a height as to be a source of discomfort and lack of exercise.

TWEED STIRRING UP THE THIEVES.

Little else is talked of in the city to-day except the action of the grand jury. There was great excitement about the City Hall all day, and large crowds of politicians were congregated in the corridors discussing proceedings against Tweed and company. It is understood that indictments have been found against twenty or more persons, and that the names of those not heretofore publicly known as having been implicated will be made known to-morrow morning. It is stated that two indictments have been found against Thomas C. Fields, and one or more against other parties connected with the city park management. It is also learned that Garvey, of Brooklyn, has been indicted for felony; that the proofs against him are even stronger than against Tweed. An indictment is said to have been found against one notorious fellow who voted six hundred registers at the last election, and a number of Police Judge has also been indicted for his connection with ballot-box stuffing. The grand jury expect to be in session for a week or ten days. By next week, when some thirty or forty sealed indictments are expected to be ready for action, a new era. The anxiety is very great as to the expected developments, and a greater excitement than prevailed when the arrest of Tweed was expected when the facts are all made known. Many of the indictments, however, having been framed before the investigating committee in this city that Watermen Welch and Wilmot had offered to get him contracts for money, the latter having sworn out complaints against him for perjury, and warrants have been issued for his arrest.

The Wharton Murder Trial.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—In the Wharton trial to-day, after the jury had retired, decided that the books and papers of General Ketchum, containing entries of interest received from Mrs. Wharton, could not be admitted.

Mrs. Cribbs was again called to the stand, and, in connection with questions and former testimony as to conversations between herself and prisoner in regard to the purchase of tartar emetic for the prisoner, and to which she then replied, under no misapprehension of the question, that the prisoner desired it for rats to testify that the man from whom witness purchased the tartar emetic was the same person who sold to prisoner.

Adjourned to Monday.

—Wendell Phillips is given as authority for the story that the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives was in the habit, before he fixes the adjournments, of putting the query, "Has Tom Scott any further business with this body?"

STATE LEGISLATURE.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 16.—The Insurance committee of the House yesterday evening required companies doing business in Chicago to have a capital of $200,000. Insurance companies, when buildings are destroyed by fire are required to pay the sum on the face of the policy, and are estopped from attempting to show that they were not so valuable. Mr. Dora introduced to-day a bill by which foreign companies are not required to make a deposit in this State.

CHICAGO MILITARY OCCUPATION.

The House was very thin this morning, there being not enough present to pass an emergency bill. There were about five representatives of Cook County in attendance.

The resolution offered by Mr. Koerner, in relation to United States troops at Chicago, elicited but little debate, and was sent to the special committee on the subject by a vote which was no index of the number of votes which would have been cast for or against the resolution. There will be nothing more said about the subject until the special committee make their report on it and Governor Beveridge or Governor Lowe's resolution did not bring out a word of discussion.

COOK COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

On Friday, the House ordered to a third reading a bill to provide for making a new levy and collection for county, State and school purposes, and corporate purposes, in cases where the record of the levy, or the assessment roll, or a large part in value, of the taxable property has been destroyed or impaired by fire. Of course, this refers to the Chicago fire, and the various agencies within its limits. Setting aside, for the moment, the question whether it may be safe under which the taxes for 1871 can be collected in this State, there seems to be the following appropriate objection to the bill as drawn: It does not provide, which, if essential, should be obviated, that a put upon the statute book. The assessment of property in Cook County, for State taxation, for 1871, was made in April of last year by Richard Hunsaker, from which assessment of that assessment was submitted to the State Board of Equalization, and was by them neither lowered nor raised. The proper officers adding together the equalized assessments of all the counties, and each individual, it is necessary to carry on the State Government, decided upon the rate per cent which must be assessed upon property in that county to raise that portion of the expenses of the State, and that was certified to the County Clerk of Cook County.

From the moment of the assessment of realty, the tax becomes a lien upon it. It becomes a lien upon personal property only when the books go into the Collector's hands. Therefore the State has a lien upon all the realty in Cook County for a tax proportioned to, or based upon, its value on the 1st of April, 1871.

"The General Assembly," says the constitution, "shall have power to release or discharge any county, city, township, town, or district whatever, or the inhabitants thereof, or the property therein, from its proportion or share of taxes to be levied for State purposes." The bill provides that "the proportion or share" shall be made according to the value of property on the 1st day of December, as near as may be, in the manner provided by law." Assessments will be in January before an assessment can be made. It is reasonable to fix the valuation a month back? Is it in the power of a man to say what the value of his personal property was on the 1st of December? If he does not choose to return it, how is the Assessor to ascertain it? No law should require an impossibility. Such laws shall be uniform in respect to persons and property; says the constitution. The valuation on which they are based must, therefore, be uniform. But an assessment, "as near as may be, on the 1st of December," or of any other day of assessment, is not strictly warranted. The State has a right to the taxes which have accrued upon its realty in Cook County for a tax proportioned to, or based upon, its value on the 1st of April, 1871.

To make it proportional to its value on the 1st of December is to violate a principle of uniformity, and establish one rule for one hundred counties, and another for one. If the valuation in December is less than in April, can the General Assembly "release any county, or the inhabitants thereof, or the property therein, from its proportionate share of taxes?" The bill says: "The taxes so levied shall be a lien from the time now provided by law," which is, upon realty April, 1871. Can the General Assembly thus defeat the lien? Can an assessment made in January, 1872, based on the value of property in December, 1871, and by the levy of the taxes thereon, be the means of which shall relate back to April, 1871? A man who has brought property into Cook County in April is subject to a certain lien. Can that be dissolved, and another substituted for it? The bill further provides that it shall be the duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts to extend the rate of State taxation for State purposes on all assessments in the same as if it had been equalled by the State Board of Equalization. The duty of the State Board, by law, is to equalize assessments so that "every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to his, her, or its, property." Shall the Auditor exist from this uniformity of assessment, and consequent taxation in proportion to property? Shall he violate the agencies of the State must be uniform in their operation. The bill says the new assessment is to be made according to the value of the property. The Assessor is sworn to make it according to law. Can the Auditor be required to assume that are sworn to make the assessment according to value. What is its value? One-quarter, one-half, or one-third? It will either be that given by the arbitrary rule of the Assessor? Certainly not! It will be that which, in fact, it is worth. Then you need the services of the State Board to equalize and lower, what would be the assessment of property opposed to Cook County, property in other counties being assessed below its value?

But it is said that the Assessors in Cook County will take notice of this state of affairs and assess property at what it would have been April of its value. But it does not raise in law-makers in public affairs to violate an order of a tribunal, or a sworn officer to violate an order to secure justice, a plain provision of the law they have just made. If the Assessor will not do his duty, and a private citizen do so? Take a case which has often occurred. A man owns $100,000, and is assessed at $2,500. It's property, worth the same sum, is assessed at $3,000. It is aware of this discrepancy, and enters in regard to it. Only the Commissioners to have it corrected. To get into court, he must submit to the wrong of which he is assessed above its value. Can he do it? Relatively to A's, it is; positively, it is not. Although the President of the United States may have encourage perjury among tax-payers, many will not make it. The inequality and uniformity of taxation then becomes an impossibility.

The bill says the authorities having such matters in charge shall have the same powers as the Board of Equalization, and was by them neither lowered nor raised. The proper officers adding together the equalized assessments of all the counties, and each individual, it is necessary to carry on the State Government, decided upon the rate per cent which must be assessed upon property in that county to raise that portion of the expenses of the State, and that was certified to the County Clerk of Cook County.

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